

THE CHART

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With the return of Britany Hargis and Elisha Bonnot, two new faces round out one of the best softball pitching staffs in head coach Pat Lipira's coaching career.
... Sports Scene, Page 12

STUDENT SUPPORT CENTER

Wilson director of re-named department

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

A new department name and a new director are what's recently been established in counseling services. As of March 1, Kelly Wilson is Missouri Southern's new director of counseling, but she's not really the "director of counseling"

because it's no longer called counseling services but instead the student support center. "A lot of it is that we do so much more than counseling," Wilson said. "It was misleading. We thought student support center was a little more encompassing." The name student support center will appear in the new College catalog, but no formal announcement has been made.

"I guess I am sort of letting the cat out of the bag," Wilson said. Wilson graduated as one of the first five communication majors at the College in 1983. "It's something I am very proud of," she said. "Actually, I was going to transfer, but they said that the College was developing this new program and asked if I would stay."

We were guinea pigs; there were some classes that didn't even have books. It was so much smaller than it is now." Wilson has her master's degree and is currently working on her doctorate from the University of Arkansas. She was interim director of counseling

TURN TO CAMPUS SUPPORT, PAGE 2

Donation generates income

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Many Missouri Southern students have found an alternative way to earn around \$10 an hour — plasma donation.

Donating plasma is a community service that also pays \$20 per donation.

The 90-minute task can be performed twice a week at Community Bio Resources of

Joplin.

"I figured it would be a good use of time with a way to earn a little extra money," said Seth Wolfshorndl, sophomore art education major. Wolfshorndl has been donating since

Student LifeBeat



These special feature stories are designed specifically for you—the students. If you have story suggestions please call 625-9311.

November 1997.

"I heard about it from a friend who's been doing it for four years," he said.

"It gives me time to study or read or whatever."

Donating plasma may not seem like an act of benevolence because people are paid to do it. Community Bio Resources explains that it doesn't "buy plasma," but instead compensates donors for their time.

Some people may not donate because they feel that it is unsafe.

"It's fine as long as the place is clean and you don't start a vigorous exercise regimen directly after donating," said Dr. Stanley Smith of Smith Medical Clinic in Owasso, Okla.

However, not all interested persons are able to donate. The requirements for donation are strict and regimented to ensure the plasma is safe, but mainly to protect the donor.

For a person to donate, he or she must be between the ages of 18 to 59, supply two forms of I.D. and proof of address, and pass an in-center physical. Then each time a person goes in to donate, he or she must have blood pressure, iron count, and temperature checked. Also, a personal history screening is done to make sure the donor does not fall into a "high risk" category. If the donor fails any of these tests, he or she is unable to donate at that time.

TURN TO PLASMA, PAGE 2

"I believe we will be able to build a better world."

Gorbachev: Democracy is in crisis

Former leader of the Soviet Union visits Central Missouri State University, addresses global challenges

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Mikhail Gorbachev, the reform-minded president of the former Soviet Union from 1985-1991, orated on the policies and the challenges facing international democracy Wednesday night at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg.

It was Gorbachev's first appearance in Missouri since his 1992 speech at Westminster College in Fulton.

Gorbachev's address capped Central's annual Excellence in Governance Day. The Excellence in Governance Award was given to retiring Central President Dr. Ed Elliott.

"I always like to be among the young people," Gorbachev said to a capacity crowd at Central's Multipurpose Building. "You will be shouldering great, great responsibility."

Gorbachev challenged the academic community to study the process of governmental decentralization.

"Democracy is in crisis, even in those countries where democracy is the long standing tradition," he said. "Democracy itself needs to become more democratic. The search is going on for a better kind of democracy, a new kind of democracy, a renewed democracy. And the search is going in several directions."

Gorbachev said methods of governance are determined by the political system. That is why he introduced *perestroika* and *glasnost*.

Perestroika was his plan for restructuring the Soviet economy. *Glasnost* was a policy of openness in politics and culture.

"Without changing the political system, we could not change the government," he said.

Perestroika was abandoned by the Russian government after the disintegration of the Soviet Union. It was replaced by a more radical policy meant to quicken the transition to capitalism.

Gorbachev credits much of Russia's current economic strife to this change.

"The system of governance has disappeared," Gorbachev said.

Gorbachev said there are still forces in Russia resisting democracy. The elderly



Mikhail Gorbachev salutes the success of Russian students in America among a capacity crowd in the Multipurpose Building at Central Missouri State University on Wednesday night.

feel they were better off under the totalitarian regime. Gorbachev said they protest under banners of Joseph Stalin longing for the security of Communism.

Gorbachev was troubled by a rift that is developing between the United States and Russia.

"Russia wants to be your friend," he said.

He urged American policy makers to avoid paternalistic views toward the nation.

"It is not too late although things are starting to go wrong," he said.

Gorbachev complimented the performance of Russian students in America before turning to the subject of rapid globalization.

"History is not preordained," he said,

"we can change history."

Members of the audience were able to address Gorbachev in a question and answer session. They pressed him on topics ranging from Chinese communist reform to freedom of religion in Russia.

As Gorbachev left the lectern he said the future would be a synthesis of values.

"A free world is always a pluralistic world," he said.

He embraced Pope John Paul II's call for a more humane world order and closed his with a vision of the future.

"I believe we will be able to build a better world."

Gorbachev is on a speaking tour of the US. Popular in America, Gorbachev is not liked in Russia. As a candidate for

president in 1996 he received less than 1% of the vote.

"I think it is a shame that they don't have respect for him over there," said Heather Hallas, senior Social Studies major at Central.

"I think he is a good example of the world leader," said Jason Woodson, senior history/political science major at Central. "He did a good job of diplomacy and foreign relations."

Tatiana Karmanova, director of the International Language Resource Center, offered an explanation for this discrepancy.

"What the west doesn't know and cannot experience first hand is how it is to live in Russia under the economic reforms of Gorbachev," she said. □

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Regents announce sabbatical approval for Southern faculty members

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Teaching from experience and personal research appears to be the basis of sabbatical leaves at Missouri Southern.

Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, said three faculty members will go on sabbaticals next year. Dr. Joy Dworkin, associate professor of English, and Dr. Robert McDermid, assistant professor of psychology, will be gone during the fall semester. Dr. Sara Sale,

associate professor of history, will take the entire year off.

Bitterbaum said the projects they work on should have a direct impact on their teaching once they return to the classroom.

"In writing their proposal, they have to

show how they will benefit as a teacher and a scholar," Bitterbaum said. "It's a combination that enriches their scholarship and their classroom teaching, so they benefit and the College benefits."

Dworkin is taking a sabbatical to complete a book-length manuscript of poems.

"Last summer I took a workshop, the New York State Writers Institute, that involved a rather intensive poetry workshop," she said. "It was so productive for me, and I felt that I really wanted to be able

TURN TO SABBATICALS, PAGE 2



Arts Showcase:

Swing dancing has become the new "thing to do" for people of all ages.....page 7

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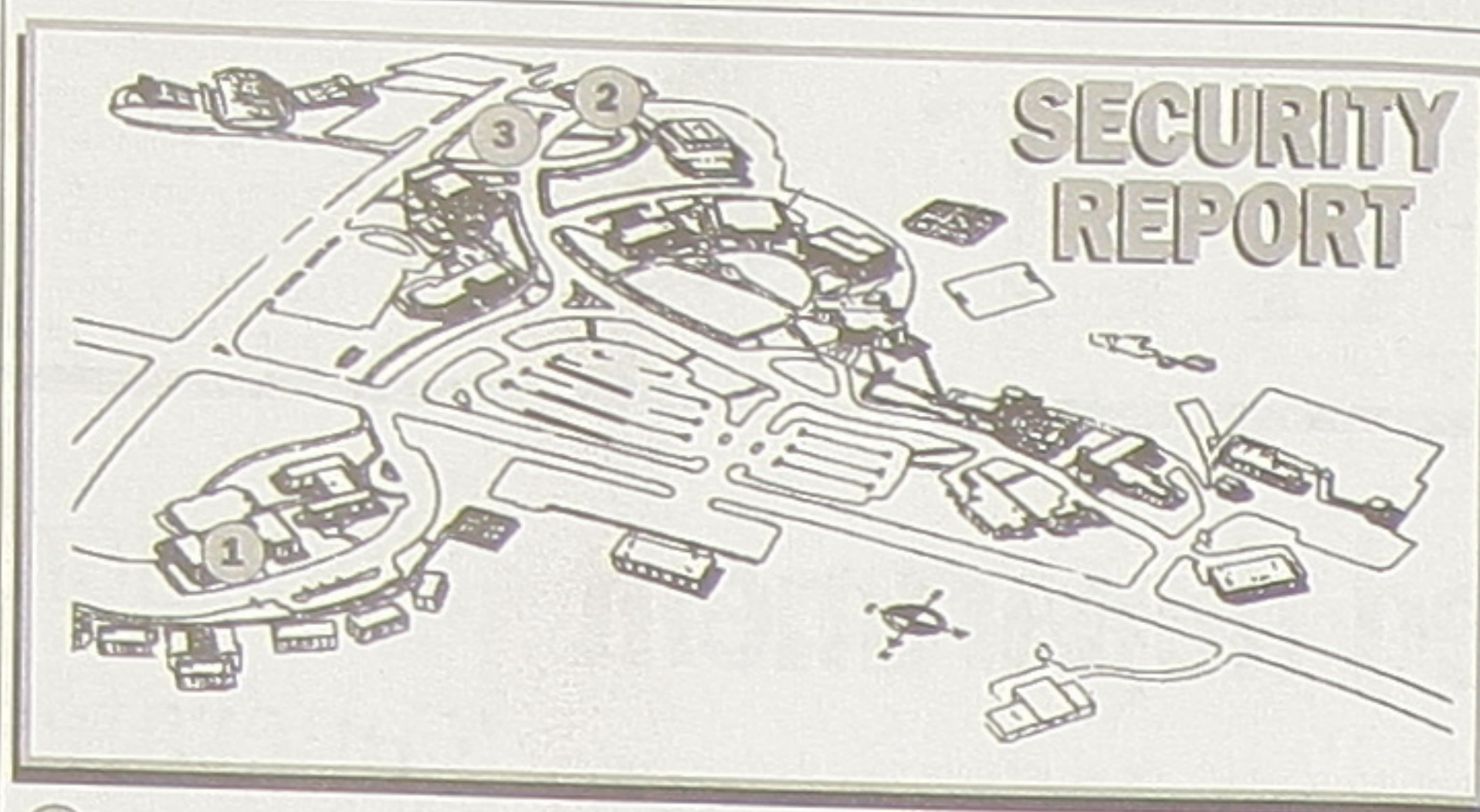
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SECURITY REPORT

- 1 3/1/99 Blaine Hall
- 2 3/1/99 Taylor Hall
- 3 3/1/99 Lot #14

A fire alarm was set off at Blaine Hall, and security contacted Ron Mitchell, men's residence director, who reported that someone had pulled the alarms. One was located on the third floor and one on the second.

Susan Simmons needed a key to her file cabinet, but security did not have access to the key she needed. Simmons did not have time to wait on finding the key, so the file cabinet was broken into and she obtained her purse.

Nicholas Johnson was turning into an open parking space when Jama Davis was northbound on Lot #14 when Johnson's car struck the left front of the Davis car with its right front.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

PLASMA: Giving has become job for some

From Page 1

Renee Roach, freshman marketing major, was turned away because her blood pressure was too low. "I felt inadequate, like my plasma wasn't good enough," she said. For some students, the money they earn from plasma donation becomes a staple in their budget. "There was this guy who used to give plasma who would say, 'Plasma donation: a job that really sucks,'" Wolfshorndt said. Michael Fletcher, senior biology major,

has been donating for four and a half years. "I turned 18, and the next day I gave plasma," he said. "Even if I'm working, I try to do it once a week. It's a good way to get paid to study — easy money." Fletcher has been giving plasma so long that he said he can't even feel the needle go into his vein anymore. "I think all the nerves are gone around the hole," he said. The plasma collected at Community Bio Resources is not transfused into another person, but used instead for medicinal products. □

CAMPUS SUPPORT: Wilson searching for innovative ideas

From Page 1

twice before becoming the official director. Dr. Linda Caldwell left the position in October for the University of Missouri-St. Louis. "The second time around I felt more qualified," Wilson said. She has several aspirations for her department. "She and her team are brainstorming at looking for new ideas to help meet the needs of the whole [campus] community," said Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice

president for academic affairs. "They do a variety of things, their services are quite extensive. "Retention is our key thing," Wilson said. "When a student [has an undeclared major] they don't have a line of direction, and we're looking at developing more programs to give them that direction. I think that our life planning class has helped a lot. More students should take it." The student support center may expand its office hours to accommodate the evening students at Southern. It is also looking at developing weekend programs.

"We want to work more closely with housing," Wilson said, "because everything is closed down on the weekends and we are interested in knowing the different needs of the residence students." Wilson will be in charge of hiring a person to fill her old job. The position will be posted this week-end. Wilson said she is excited about her new opportunity as the director of the student support center. "I want the students to feel their input is important because they're what we do," she said. □

SABBATICALS: Time off can provide new perspectives

From Page 1

to devote a chunk of time to writing." Dworkin has had poems published in several reviews. "My experience writing is just completely relevant to my creative writing class just in terms of being able to share the nuts and bolts of the process and the emotional and psychological aspects of the process," she said. "It feeds pretty directly into my teaching." Dworkin said the ability to take a sabbatical is crucial for educators. "I think to be able to invest yourself fully in either your scholarly or creative work is enormously beneficial to your teaching," she said. "That kind of ability to follow through on your commitment to your profession carries through into the classroom."

McDermid will complete survey research in the area of sex education and undertake reading, research, and training in neuropsychology, focusing on the assessment of individuals with brain injuries and illnesses. Sale will complete the research and writing of a manuscript, *Betty Grable: An American Icon*. The book may be published by

Oxford University Press. "This is an emphasis area of mine that I've never really had the chance to do a lot of research in," she said. "It gives me a chance to do a lot of extra reading, additional in-depth reading on cultural history, and my research in certain



Dr. Erik Bitterbaum
Vice president for academic affairs

sources I'll be able to bring back into the classroom." Sale has had another book published, *The Shaping of Containment: Harry S. Truman, the National Security Council, and the Cold War*. She said sabbaticals are important because they can help bring in new perspectives to a faculty member. "They refresh you, they give new insights and time to complete projects that you've had on the back burner for sometime," Sale said. "It's kind of a time of renewal for a lot of teachers like me." Sale will visit southern California to do research at the Margaret Herrick Library at the Academy of

"That kind of ability to follow through on your commitment to your profession carries through into the classroom."

Dr. Joy Dworkin
Associate Professor

Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. She will also go to New York and do research at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. "I'll be in and out, back and forth quite a bit," she said. "I still have about two-thirds of my research left to do, but I should have a big part of that completed by summer, mostly wrapping up research in the fall and doing some interviews. "Then the last half of the sabbatical, I'll be immersed in writing. The book should be out, my editor hopes, by the fall of 2000, so I'll be clicking it off." □

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If your idea is
chosen as the 1999
Homecoming theme.

All suggestions should be sent to the Student Activities Office, ESC room 102, by March 10.



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President lobbies for additional funding

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Several students raised a question at Wednesday night's Student Senate meeting.

"What the hell is that magazine?" is a question Student Senate President Jesse DeGonia said several Missouri Southern students have asked him with after noticing that *Crossroads: The Magazine* received \$18,000 in student fees during the fall.

"I saw this figure, and it was extremely large," said Lisa Bandy, senior senator. "And I was just wondering if one was even published last semester."

The most recent issue of *Crossroads* was published last summer, but an edition is currently at the printer's.

"The issue is probably going to be discussed with the administration," DeGonia said. "People do not read it, they do not know what it is, and they do not want their money going toward it. In my opinion, *The Chart* and Senate need more money."

Sophomore senator Patty Richardson said the Senate may receive additional funding. "It's being talked about, but it is not official," she said.

Senators not present at this week's meeting were Nick Prewett, Vanessa Copeland, Henry Holmes, Stephen Bishop, Wade Early, Dave Finken, Josh Marsh, Carrie Shannon, Aqueela Jackson, Carrie Dice, Sherry Hull, and Jaimi Hampton. Beth Cook resigned her Senate seat, bringing the number of Senate openings to two: a sophomore seat and a junior seat.

The Senate allotted \$2,800 this week, including \$800 to the Psychology Club to help fund its trip to a national research convention.

"It's a really good opportunity for students to hear other students present research and bring it back to Southern and present it next year," parliamentarian Sandy Fisk said on the club's behalf. "We've gone to this convention for years. Missouri Southern has always been well represented and taken home awards."

WISE received \$1,000 for its trip to Washington, D.C. to teach in an urban environment for a few days. The Council for Exceptional Children also received \$1,000 to attend its national convention.

Senior senator Jeff Droz brought up his sister's recent reprimand for working out in the Student Life Center in her sports bra.

"She was asked to wear a shirt," Droz said. "She didn't feel that she needed to wear a shirt. She was working out with a bunch of football players, and she's pretty sure they didn't mind."

Senators informed him that the most effective route would probably be to take it up with Doug Carnahan, dean of students and Senate adviser.

The meeting closed when DeGonia brought up a "Kiss a Pig" fund-raiser for the American Diabetes Association. His employer, Arvest Bank, is sponsoring him, but he needs to raise \$1,000 to meet his goal.

DeGonia also called a mandatory diversification committee meeting for all its members. □

SENATE COFFERS

MAR. 3 REQUESTS:

■ Psychology Club—

Request: \$800

Received: \$800

■ WISE —

Request: \$1,000

Received: \$1,000

■ The Council for

Exceptional Children —

Request: \$1,000

Received: \$1,000

CURRENT BALANCE:

\$2,450.00

Missouri Southern's Student Senate allows clubs and organizations made up of students to request up to \$1,000 to pay for group expenses.

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Southern Trio presents free concert Sunday

The Southern Trio will present a free concert at 3 p.m. Sunday in Webster Hall auditorium.

The faculty trio consists of Kexi Liu, violinist; Gloria Jardon, pianist; and William Elliott, violoncellist, of Missouri Southern's music department. The concert will mark the world premiere of Jardon's "Angel Fire Suite," which includes four movements and uses jazz harmonies and rhythms that follow classical forms of piano trio composition.

Ludwig van Beethoven's "Trio No. 3 in C Minor" and Joaquin Turina's "Trio No. 1" will also be performed. □

Bloodmobile on campus Monday for donations

A Community Blood Center of the Ozarks bloodmobile will take donations at Missouri Southern from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday. All donors will receive a free thermal auto mug.

"Community Blood Center of the Ozarks supplies blood and blood products to 29 hospitals in this area," said Carmen Reynolds, assistant director of public relations for CBCO. "Every unit of blood we collect stays in the Ozarks to help our local friends and neighbors."

All eligible donors are encouraged to give blood to help ensure an adequate blood supply is available when needed by local patients.

For more information, persons may contact Grace Ayton, assistant professor of nursing, at 625-3148. □

Panel discusses euro's history, impact on U.S.

A panel of experts will discuss the euro's history and how it will impact the United States and the dollar at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Webster Hall auditorium.

Panelists will include Dr. Bo Strombom, a former Southern business professor and currently a consultant to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

Dr. Richard La Near, the J.R. Kuhn Professor of Finance at Southern, will moderate the program. For more information, persons may contact La Near at 625-3127. □

Food Feast bridges culinary culture gaps

Russian shce soup is difficult to find on most restaurant menus in the region. However, that dish and many others will be served when the International Club hosts an International Food Feast from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, March 12 at Forest Park Baptist Church in Joplin.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$8 for the general public. Tickets are available at the International Language Resource Center, Room 343 of Webster Hall, or at the door.

The menu will feature Polish mushroom soup, Czech apple soup, Russian salads, Czech ham rolls, French crêpes, Mexican salsa, Hong Kong chicken, Indian chicken curry, Chinese noodles, Russian kalitka, and several varieties of cakes and other dishes.

For more information, persons may contact Tatiana Karmanova, director of the International Language Resource Center, at 625-3109. □

Excellence in Business prize won by Sharp's

Sharp's Import Auto Centre of Joplin has received an Excellence in Business Award with the assistance of Karen Bradshaw, instructor of business at Missouri Southern.

Bradshaw, a consultant with the Joplin Small Business Development Center, assisted Sharp's with planning, marketing, and obtaining financing for a new 7,000-square-foot, 12-by garage. The Joplin SBDC is located on the Missouri Southern campus. □

I'VE GOT IT



Charity Covert, freshman undecided major, enjoys the sunshine early this week by getting in on a Frisbee game on campus.

ERIN SELLERS/The Chart

CAMPUS SECURITY

Various campus thefts remain unsolved

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Students and faculty should lock car doors and hide valuables due to several thefts that have been reported on campus this semester.

A Pentium Acer computer, valued at around \$250, was reported stolen from Webster Hall, Room 129 on Jan. 11. The next day in Reynolds Hall, Rooms 237 and 333 were burglarized when a camera and electric scales were taken. These thefts took place before the semester even started.

An uneventful week went by, and then trouble struck again. On Jan. 19 or 20, a VCR and receiver were stolen from Webster Hall, Room 105.

On Jan. 29, a student was the next to suffer a loss. Coincidentally, Sean Ritchie had parked his vehicle in Lot 35, which happens to be near the campus security office. The door to his vehicle had been pried open and

his CD player and 60 CDs were stolen. The latest theft was a Sony Star Receiver and a Sony VCR, which were taken from Room 232 in Reynolds Hall. The Feb. 19 theft was reported by Dr. John Messick, head of the biology department.

Bryan Lawler, technical specialist for the continuing education office, believes thefts are becoming more of a problem at Missouri Southern.

"We first discovered the missing computer right before school started this semester," Lawler said. "It seems like thefts are a big problem on this campus, especially with electronic equipment."

"People need to be more aware of what is going on around them," he said. "For instance, someone was walking down the hall with a VCR last semester. Some other people and I stopped them and said, 'Uh, excuse me, can I help you?' That stopped them."

Webster Hall is one of the worst areas, according to Bill Boyer, chief of security.

"I think Webster Hall is a target for thefts because there are a lot of people up there after dark around expensive electronic equipment," Boyer said. "They should close all buildings at 10 p.m."

Thefts are normal occurrences for Bob Beeler, director of the physical plant.

"We have a normal trickle of thefts, I would say," Beeler said.

"We have a good key system right now, but if thefts become more of a problem, we can easily change it. Meanwhile, I advise students to write or etch their name and social security number into their belongings, and if the items are too large to carry around, just put them in the trunk."

Dallas Fortner, security officer, also shares the opinion that Webster Hall is the most unsecured building on campus.

"Mainly, thefts occur in Webster Hall because doors remain unlocked at odd hours," he said. "Students' CDs are another hot target." □

TRAFFIC APPEALS COMMITTEE

Signs give students just cause

By ROB WOODALL
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Mere mention of the tiny, yet ruthless parking ticket sends chills down most backs, and along comes the traffic appeals committee to bring justice to the wrongfully accused.

The monthly committee meeting was held Friday, with two of the four seats occupied by temporary fill-ins. Jason Kiefer, junior secondary education major, and Robert Terry, head of the criminal justice department, both committee members, were not present for the meeting. The fill-ins were Jeff Droz, senior criminal justice major, and Mike Huldeman, training coordinator at the Police Academy.

The committee accepts written and oral statements from students in order to grant or refuse appeals of campus traffic tickets.

"Usually we have about 30 to 40 requests (appeals) a month," said Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities and committee member. "And normally, we grant five to seven."

This month, the committee received around 30 appeals and granted nine for various reasons. The majority of appeals granted was due to the lack of no-parking signs in many locations. One appeal was awarded because the security officer who wrote the ticket improperly filled it out.

"It was the new guy," said Terry Hylton, campus security officer and committee member. "It was a rookie mistake."

The committee also suggests new ways to improve traffic and parking problems. The meetings are open to students appealing or anyone with a suggestion or question.

Each month the committee is faced with appeals from non-traditional students who claim they don't know the traffic rules on campus. All freshmen are required to learn the rules in the Fresh Start summer program.

"Non-traditional students sometimes fall through the cracks and miss the speeches on traffic rules," Carlisle said.

The committee meets at 2 p.m. the last Friday of every month in Hearn Hall. However, the March meeting will be held on the 19th due to spring break. □

FACULTY SENATE

High school parents object to quality of dual-credit classes

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Topics ranging from dual credit policies to the need for a Missouri Southern lobbyist were discussed in a 90-minute meeting of the Faculty Senate Monday afternoon.

Dr. Karl Schmidt, Senate vice president, reported on the Feb. 1 meeting of the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates in Columbia. Some issues Schmidt focused on dealt with dual credit.

"Some parents have objected to having to pay for dual credit classes and then the credit not transferring to a four-year college," Schmidt said.

College President Julio Leon said most teachers at the high school level do not have master's degrees.

"Ninety percent of faculty teaching dual credit programs have not received their master's degree, which does not give students the knowledge base they need for their major field of study," Leon said.

Steve Carlton, president of

Southern's Board of Regents, was invited to the Senate meeting to take comments and questions from the faculty.

He was asked about the role and function of the regents, the evaluation of the College president, the most pressing issues the Board is facing, and the need to hire a lobbyist for Southern.

"We are thinking of hiring a lobbyist for Southern," Carlton said. "Many other universities have full-time lobbyists to enhance their missions."

In new business, a request from Dr. Art Saltzman, professor of English, to end late registration on the Friday of the first week of classes was considered.

A memo from Saltzman told of a student who was allowed to enroll in his class in the third week of the semester.

"The student has to get the instructor's permission to enter the class as well as the department head's," said Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs. "Any instructor has the right to tell

a student they cannot enter the class."

In old business, the idea of implementing a January interim semester was discussed as well as a new approach to Intercession and the summer term. Bitterbaum said the College could move to a three-week Intercession and have two summer terms instead of one.

"This is a common model that could be easily implemented," he said.

The Senate's next meeting is set for April 5. □

OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Service for greater good

Something is wrong with the Missouri Southern college community when community service opportunities are left unattempted by any organization.

In last weeks edition of *The Chart* students and community members alike were alerted to the need for help in the area of paper recycling on campus.

This is the perfect opportunity for any number of groups on campus who claim orientation toward service and even those who have only sniffed around the idea of community action to come forward for the betterment of our institution. This action is both noble and neighborly as it would entail only a few hours of work to assist not only Southern but Crowder College as well.

Crowder has been handling paper recycling for Southern, but no longer has the funding to send a driver to Joplin to pick up our paper.

The College may have to pay for the privilege of having our waste paper recycled.

Why is Crowder College, a smaller institution with presumably fewer resources in the area of student involvement surging ahead of Southern in its efforts to participate in a recycling program?

Crowder has the technology to make our old paper into something other than padding on a land fill. The environment is about as international as any issue can be and here, Missouri Southern students and student organizations are being called upon to help. Aren't international issues our specialty? Yes.

Someone with a willing heart and a big truck needs to step up, pick up our paper, and take it to Neosho.

Jim Slater, manager of the Crowder recycling center, said his office is willing to work with the person or group who volunteers for the task.

We're just talking about some wheels and a couple of hours. This is the kind of thing that raises both morale and consciousness not to mention it is a genuinely good thing to be involved with.

This is an excellent opportunity for an organization to offer its members community service hours. In addition, Crowder officials can help with the whole thing once the paper gets to their campus.

This is not a sales pitch, as it is frightening to think there may be need of one.

Opportunities for service should be selling themselves in this land of opportunity and over abundance. The need for recycling and programs like this are products of that abundance.

At the very least the Missouri Southern college community should be willing to extend itself just a little more to pick up the slack. □

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via e-mail. Our e-mail address: Chart@mail.mssc.edu. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

ANDREA'S ANGLE



EDITOR'S COLUMN

Students live fully while enjoying college

Live hard — that's what one of my instructors said on the first day of class. He told us that if we were fully going to enjoy life, we must constantly stay exhausted. Well, here I am in my second semester at college, and I believe I am "living hard."

I see people who never completely engulf themselves in college. They still live at home and work 40 hours a week. Yes, they go to class, but how's that any different than high school?

I look at it this way — if people can't live fully when they are at college, then they are truly missing out. College is sort of life's biggest limbo. Kids get the opportunity to grow up, take responsibility for their own actions. On the other hand, most don't have the responsibility of a family and a career. What better place to live life?



Erin Sellers
Campus Editor

I came here from Tulsa, not knowing anyone amidst the sea of freshmen, and it would have been easy to do my home work and study in all my spare time, but luckily I ventured out of my comfort zone, made new friends, and was greatly rewarded for it. I'm not saying people need to party so hard at night that they can't get up and go to class. I'm just saying that if I stumble into class a little more than slightly tired after a night of playing Mario Kart, making corny home movies, or making a 1 a.m. rollerblading run, then I know that I am living.

Not to sound cliché, but people never know when their time on this Earth is over. I recently had a grandfather pass away, and in many ways, he is my inspiration for living life. Several years ago he was diagnosed with diabetes and a serious liver condition, neither of which slowed him down too much. Despite my grandmother's constant concern for his health, he would still eat, drink, and be merry.

He had good days and bad days, but his good days were truly that: good, because he was a man who, although aware of his mortality, lived

each day as if he were immortal. So I guess what I am saying is "do it, do everything!"

Join clubs, play sports. Everybody can find his niche here. Although some view Southern as a small-town commuter college, there are people and things one can gain knowledge from if they only take the time to look. Since coming here a few months ago, I have met people from Montana to Thailand and even a few from the four-state area.

There will always be a test to study for and a paper to write (isn't that what the hours of 3 and 4 a.m. are for?), but who knows what precious memories one would be missing by devoting his or her entire existence to work and books. College is a time of funny moments and friends. A time that will never occur once this four years, or in many students' cases a few more, is over. Every moment wasted is a moment lost.

People can use this college experience as a model by which to live the rest of their lives. Who knows where I will be 10 years from now, but wherever it is, I will do my best to make the most of every experience. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Life's major decisions require much thought

As soon as a person has the ability to reason, he or she starts making plans — plans on what to do with the next five minutes, five days, five years, or five decades.

With these plans being mapped out, a stubbornness sets in. This stubbornness is so overwhelmingly powerful it makes it nearly impossible to snuff out these original plans.

Then it happens. Everything that was planned comes to a screeching halt. In a split second, these plans and dreams are completely disintegrated.

A single incident or decision has the power to completely alter these plans. That carefully constructed ladder is knocked down and broken to pieces.

A week and a half ago there was such a plan, though I admit it was in need of some polishing. I had mined out my destination and set my personal resources in the direction I thought was correct. Then came the proposal. In a blink of the eye, my plans were put in jeopardy. Everything I had been preparing for the last six months was no longer the definite.

A question had been set into my mind, and I was not prepared for a snap judgment. I wanted

to say "No," "I will not," "No more," or "You can't make me." But I did not do it. I thought about the opportunity that was now available to me. An hour earlier, changing my plans was not a question in my mind. Why is it in the passing of a moment a person's life can be turned upside down? For the next few days, I was dazed trying to decide what I was going to do. I asked everyone I saw what they would do. I called my mom and my brother and asked them. In the end, everyone's choice was unanimous.

In fact, one person went so far as to say he would break my legs if I did not accept this new opportunity. So there I was with everyone telling me yes and me still wavering in doubt. A week earlier my biggest decision was where to eat lunch, and suddenly I had to decide what to do with the next year of my life. It's frightening to think a choice like this will affect me for the rest of my life. I'm 22, and the decisions I make today are laying the guide work by which all my future experiences will depend. So what should I choose? Should I follow my own stubbornness on refusing to change my mind no matter what, or should I scrap my plans, listen to those around me — and I think most of them are looking out for my own good — and take on this new challenge?

Three hundred seventy years ago, another Billington's life was changed in a split moment. John Billington came to this continent on a boat known as the Mayflower in 1620, and in 1629 he

happened to be out hunting when another member of the Plymouth colony, John Newcomen, decided to torment him. Being quite bullheaded, as appears to be par for the course in my family, old Grandpa John attempted to scare the little idiot, so he took a shot at him with his musket. Now the injury caused to this man was not severe, but medicine of the time more or less consisted of superstition and tree bark, so the little loudmouth died.

After this unfortunate turn of events, John found himself in a spot, that spot being at the end of a rope. He received the infamous honor of being the first white man executed in the New World.

I seriously doubt the choice I have now made will harvest as dire results as John Billington's decision, but it will definitely alter my life. I am hoping for the better.

It is amazing how the anticipation and excitement I felt for my original plans have altered toward my new choice. In the few days since I made up my mind, everything in my life has changed, and for the most part, for the better.

Now a word of advice — next time a choice is given to you, think about what it could mean to your life. If it is as serious as mine was, ask someone close to you for advice because every once in a while they might be right.

Of course, the first time I have someone ask me whether they should use paper or plastic, they just may be at risk of getting hit. □



Jeff Billington
Executive Editor

IN PERSPECTIVE

The best job in town is coming to an end after 33-year journey

An approaching retirement brings on a rush of thoughts as people ask me, "How long have you been here? THAT LONG?!!!"

Yes, there aren't many of us left on campus who can say we have witnessed the entire journey of Missouri Southern as it evolved from Joplin Junior College beginning in the mid '60s. And, a remarkable journey it has been. When I began teaching at the one-building campus of Joplin Junior College in 1966, the faculty was a close-knit family who carefully nurtured



Gwen Hunt
Public Information

their students. Although the campus has now "decentralized" and the whole faculty is not as close, they have worked very hard to preserve that close tradition with the students. That attitude is at the center of what happens here and is a hallmark I hope we never lose. (I used to know every faculty member on campus, but began to lose ground many years ago when 15 to 20 new faculty arrived each year!)

I did not start out to be a teacher or a public relations professional. Few people follow the same career path they started. The trick is to be ready for whatever opportunity presents itself. And to be ready, there is no substitute for a good liberal arts education. With that you can do anything! And I speak from experience. I wish I could make every Southern student understand what a rich opportunity there is here for just such an education, to learn more than what seems

to apply only to a specific major. No matter how irrelevant you may think a class is to your future plans, take it and enjoy it. Nothing is irrelevant — a truth you will continually discover as long as you work and live.

Since becoming public information director 23 years ago, I've witnessed and been a part of the most astonishing growth of this College. When I started as a one-person shop, the activities bore no resemblance to the hundreds of ads, news releases, and publications the office now produces annually. In fact, except for the few "brochures" that individual departments cranked out on a spirit master or stencil machine, there were no admissions publications.

When I produced the first four-color flier in 1978 to promote the College, I certainly didn't foresee how many ultimately would be created on campus by a team of public relations professionals. I wish I had a

dollar for all the publications that my secretary and I put together with rub-off "press type" lettering — yes, I've been here THAT LONG — before the arrival of a designer and computerized typesetting.

My "Southern journey" has been a most rewarding one. I have always thought I had the best job in town and that a college campus is the most interesting place to be.

I count biologists, mathematicians, psychologists, artists, and historians among my friends. I have watched awkward, shy, insecure students grow into knowledgeable, poised people ready to take on the world.

And I have had the distinct privilege of participating in the growth of a college I truly believe is a remarkable place with a great future. There is an exciting new world out there now...for all of us. □



SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995, 1996)
ACP National Pacemaker (1997) ACP Best of Show (1998)
ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1997, 1998) MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94, 1996-97, 1997-98)

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SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

Instructing intrigues coordinator of respiratory therapy

By KRISTIN KRAXBERGER
CHART REPORTER

Newfound passion is the most accurate way to describe Glenda Pippen's decision to educate respiratory therapy students.

"I never envisioned teaching," she said. Even though it was not her first calling, Pippen finds it quite rewarding.

She works as the clinical coordinator for respiratory therapy at Missouri Southern and Franklin Technology Center.

Pippen works under Jean Erwin, the program director for respiratory therapy.

Pippen's responsibilities involve setting up clinical rotations for the respiratory therapy students in association with Freeman Hospitals and Health System, St. John's Regional Medical Center, and other area hospitals.

Pippen worked in the hospital setting before switching to teaching.

She began working at the former Oak Hill Hospital in 1983 after certification from the

Missouri State Chest Hospital and the School of Cardio-Respiratory Technology. Pippen then went to Joplin Medical Enterprises from 1987 to 1989, and worked at a series of other hospitals before being offered a position at Franklin Tech in 1994.

Teaching was not quite what Pippen had in mind when the position became available, but she was intrigued.

She knew many people in the respiratory field from her past work experience, and that could really make a difference in a student's career path. Pippen does miss an aspect of the hospital setting.

"Respiratory therapy at a hospital is hands on, from emergency rooms to a skilled nursing unit," she said.

After working five years for Franklin Tech, Southern decided to merge the programs and center it at the College.

Lecturing in front of a class of students would be a change for Pippen.

"I was the shy girl in the class who never said much," she said.

For that reason, Pippen encourages her

students to do oral presentations and get involved.

Outside of the classroom, she has a busy family life.

Married in 1979, Pippen has one daughter who is a senior in high school.

One of Pippen's main joys is her dog, Bugsy, a pug who keeps her on her toes.

Pippen resides in Avila, where she grew up. It was important for her to remain close to family when choosing a job.

Her mother played a key role in Pippen's decision to become a respiratory therapist.

When a teenager, Pippen's mother was diagnosed with a pulmonary embolism that required a four-month hospital stay.

Pippen observed the care and skill of her mother's treatment and was impacted.

After high school, Pippen knew this would be her career path. She remains confident in this decision and finds her major life accomplishment as "being able to balance career and a personal life. That's important."

This aspect keeps Pippen grounded and excited about her future. □



ALEX PAVLOVA/Special to The Chart
Glenda Pippen demonstrates equipment used in training respiratory therapy students.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



ANGIE WILLIAMS/The Chart

David Demery performs a practice vitals check on Bekka Branum, a freshman history major. Demery enjoys working on the education side of emergency medical training and assisting people in need.

Demery shares real-life experiences

By BRIAN HARTER
CHART REPORTER

Saving lives is one of the main reasons David Demery gives for entering his field.

"I like helping people, or the thought of helping people," he said.

Of course, helping people can be a daily business for Demery, the clinical coordinator for the emergency medical services department at Missouri Southern.

He also works full-time as a paramedic and the training coordinator at Newton County Ambulance.

Demery, 35, is a lifelong resident of the Joplin area. He graduated from Carl Junction High School in 1981. His inspiration to be a paramedic came from his cousin, who is also a paramedic.

"It looked like something I would be interested in," Demery said. "Something I would have a stomach for."

In 1991, Demery enrolled in Southern's EMT basic medical program. After that, he took the paramedic program in 1993, finishing that same year.

"While I was doing that, I was working full-time for Joplin Emergency Medical Services," he said. "I worked there from 1992 to December 1997."

In 1995, he became a faculty member and taught the paramedic program from that year until the spring of 1998. In the

fall semester of 1998, Demery became Southern's clinical coordinator.

"My goal when I started was to get into the education side of EMS, and that's exactly where I'm at right now," he said. "I'm very happy where I'm at."

Demery has made some room for other goals as well. He would like to get his degree in business administration and perhaps become the director of an ambulance service. However, he is leaving that up in the air for now.

"Any time you go out and assist, assist being saving someone's life, getting them to the hospital to definitive care, that's a major accomplishment in my book," he said.

When not at work, Demery enjoys spending time with his family. He is to marry Chel Fletcher in April.

Demery also has three children: Matthew, 13; Heather, 11; and Nathaniel, 4. He enjoys taking them fishing, going to the movies, and shooting pool.

Demery has nothing but good to say about Southern.

"I think it's a good college," he said.

"It has a lot of small classes, a lot of one-on-one with the instructors that you can't get at other places. In general, it's a fine institution."

Demery also has advice for incoming freshmen.

"You need to set a goal for yourself and do whatever it takes to attain that goal so you can get some kind of happiness out of life," he said. □

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Spurlin realizes dream, returns to alma mater

Criminal justice instructor always aspired to teach

By RUSS HAGERMAN
CHART REPORTER

Teaching is a family affair for one of Missouri Southern's newest faculty members.

Jack Spurlin, instructor of criminal justice, is the son of Dr. Jack G. Spurlin, dean of the school of technology and vice president for lifelong learning.

"My dad is my hero," Spurlin said. "He was the first to go through school, was a blue-collar worker, and never gave up. His passion inspired me to teach and follow in his footsteps."

Spurlin said there is added pressure inside and out teaching at the same college as his father.

"I want to be every bit as good," he said. "But I want to carve out my own niche."

Spurlin said he loves to teach and always wanted to be able to teach.

J.J., as Spurlin prefers to be called, received a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from Southern in 1990. He also earned a master's of science degree in human resource management from Pittsburg State University in 1994.

Spurlin's classes at Southern include Introduction to Criminal Justice Administration, Basic Law Enforcement Academy, and Family Violence, which are held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Every other weekend, he teaches Current Issues. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, it's off to Crowder College to teach Supervision and Criminal Justice.

Spurlin chose to teach at Southern because it's his alma mater, his roots are established, and he believes in the mission statement of the College.

"I am a firm believer in College President Julio Leon and in the criminal justice department," he said.

Spurlin moved to Joplin in the mid-1970s from Fort Dodge, Iowa, when his father took a position at Southern.

He graduated from McAuley Regional High School in 1985. Spurlin has had an interest in law enforcement in the past jobs he held.

"I was a starter marshal at Schifferdecker golf course," he said. "I was the fair-play enforcer."



VINCE SWEENEY/The Chart

J.J. Spurlin received inspiration from his father Dr. Jack G. Spurlin, dean of the school of technology.

He also held a position as a security officer at St. John's Regional Medical Center.

From 1990 to 1996, he was a child abuse investigator for the State of Missouri, stationed in Jasper County.

Golf and the Internet are Spurlin's hobbies.

He said he is an Internet "junkie." He has traveled to San Antonio and New Orleans.

Spurlin recalled an embarrassing moment in his life.

He was on a fourth grade basketball team. He got the ball, went down court, shot, and scored — for the other team.

With that, Spurlin gives this advice to Southern students.

"Hang in there," he said. □

COMPUTER CENTER

Stadler prefers troubleshooting to dealing with HIV patients

By JASON WALSH
CHART REPORTER

After some "scary experiences" working as an EMT, Albert Stadler decided to pursue a new career in computers.

As a pre-med student at Missouri Southern, Stadler changed his major after working through some disturbing situations with HIV patients. He thought his safety was at risk in this field and decided there should be a change. Now, Stadler is a PC network support and services technician at Southern while still working toward his degree.

Stadler said he enjoys his new work environment.

"It's a good atmosphere to work in, you learn a lot, and the stress load is easier than other places," he said.

The technician position involves maintenance of the computer network across the Southern campus. Stadler deals with such problems as application troubleshooting and assisting with the network design. This comprises the "gruntwork" of the computer department.

Stadler began his position as a student last semester and became full time in November. Since beginning his role, he said "the staff's been helpful" making his transition a smooth one.

"You don't have to travel,"

Stadler said. "You go to class, go to work, go back to class. You don't lose time, and it never hurts to be



Albert Stadler
Computer Technician

right there where you're working."

A native of Warsaw, Mo., he moved to Joplin seven years ago to attend Southern. Stadler lived in College Station, Texas, for nearly two years, where he worked as a sales manager for Hewlett-Packard and team leader in the electronics department at Sam's. But the distance from friends, family, and church brought him back to the area.

Stadler's family consists of his daughter, Tara, 11, and his wife, Jill, a Southern graduate. They are expecting a son in May.

"I am constantly striving to improve myself," Stadler said.

He is still advancing toward his computer information science degree while working at the College with plans to graduate in May 2000. Along with his work and school schedule, Stadler is attempting to get certi-

fied in the Microsoft Engineering Program and as a CNE (Certified Novell Engineer).

As a student at Southern, Stadler says Dr. Dale Simpson, now head of the English department, was one of his greatest influences.

"He's been a good elder and good focus," Stadler said.

Besides family and career, church is an important component in Stadler's life. He attends the Church of Christ in Joplin with his family, which he says provides a great deal of support.

His faith has helped build his philosophy of "take one day at a time, do the best you can, and leave it up to God."

Stadler plans to stay in the area for a while, unless "a huge opportunity comes along." His long-term goal is to have "a happy family and retire early." □

Campus Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Erin Sellers at 625-9311.



■ George Washington Carver Art and Essay Contest on display now through March 20 in the Spiva Art Gallery.

Saturday

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.—
Accounting Club sponsored
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
(VITA), Joplin Public Library.

Monday

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.—
Student Nurses' Association
Blood Drive, BSC 3rd floor.

Wednesday

7 p.m.—
Business seminar, "What to
Make of the Euro," Webster
auditorium.

Thursday

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—
Business seminar, "How to
Increase Your Firm's Sales by
Accepting Credit Cards," BSC
rm. 310. Cost is \$10.

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

Faculty exhibit 'arresting' behavior for cause

Event to benefit Association

By BRIAN WIRTH
STAFF WRITER

Several people may soon be "doing time" if they don't raise their bail money for the American Heart Association's Cardiac Arrest. Several of Missouri Southern's faculty and staff are participating in Cardiac Arrest, a fund-raiser for the American Heart Association.

The Cardiac Arrest fund-raiser will be held 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday at the Southwest Missouri Bank Community Center south of Seventh and Duquesne.

"We have about 18 people here on campus who will be participating as 'arrestees,'" said Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities.

The "arrestees" are to go out and collect as much "bail money" as they can. The goal for each "arrestee" is \$100. Each person who is participating in the event has had many weeks to collect the money.

"There are about 400 other people from Joplin also participating, and we hope to raise somewhere around \$10,000," Carlisle said.

The people involved will get a free lunch and T-shirt.

A Sunbeam grill will be awarded to the person who collects the most money.

The "arrestees" don't get off with just bringing in the bail money.

On the day of the event, the "arrestees" must appear before Judge Heartless, played by Jim Frazier, director of men's athletics.

If found guilty of the charges brought against

them, they will be forced to serve their "sentence," drawn from a hat.

The "arrestees'" sentences will include such things as impersonating Elvis and quacking like a duck.

"If they bring in the correct amount of bail money, then I will probably let them off," Frazier said.

This event is a major fund-raiser for the American Heart Association, but the event itself is more of a theatrical occasion.

The Cardiac arrest proceedings are open to the public. Donations to the American Heart Association will also be accepted.

"Hopefully, we can get a lot of people to come down to be hecklers, picketers, and character witnesses," Carlisle said.

"It will be a lot of fun." □

"If they bring in the correct amount of bail money, then I will probably let them off."

Jim Frazier
director of men's
athletics

GETTING THEIR FEET WET



Tiffany Westover (left), sophomore elementary education major, and Melissa Spencer, sophomore marketing major, duck under their umbrellas Tuesday morning on their way to class.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Student teachers begin on-the-job training

By MELODY LANING
STAFF WRITER

Missouri Southern's spring semester student teaching program began today, which finalizes education majors' requirements for graduation.

The actual process to participate as a Southern student teacher begins with the decision to become an education major. After declaring a major, the student is required to file a tentative admittance to the education program.

A minimum ACT score of a 20 is required. After admittance, core classes are required with a minimum 2.75 grade-point average. After this has been completed, the student applies to teach during the second semester of his or her senior year.

"The traditional way to student teach is to complete a core block of classes required for education majors at Southern," said Kathy Neise, senior social studies education major. "The other eight weeks consist of an internship. Successful completion of this allows you to be fully admitted to the education program."

Student teaching is the last thing that you do before graduation.

There are more than 800 education majors on campus and approximately 100 student teachers. Southern's student teaching program covers around 60 counties. Students are able to pick their first and second choices of school districts in which they want to teach.

Student teachers received the chance last Friday to meet their students participating in the program. This will not be the only time student teachers will be able to observe.

"The first week and a half to two weeks we observe the students and get a chance to meet them and learn their names," Neise said. "The next one and half to two weeks I team teach with the teacher. After that, for the next six weeks, I am the main teacher. After I teach, for a week and a half, we team teach again, and then the main teacher takes over again. This eases the student teacher in and takes them back out again."

Southern's teaching program is well recognized through their demand in teaching positions.

"Southern has a very strong education pro-

gram demonstrated over the years by reports received through observations," said Dr. Michael Horvath, dean of the school of education. "Southern's students are in high demand. By hiring a Missouri Southern graduate, it's like already having a teacher with one year of experience."

A common complaint among student teachers is the lack of compensation for student teaching.

"In a way we pay to student teach," Neise said. "We get eight credit hours which we pay for. However, we do not get paid to teach. It's impossible to student teach and work an additional 20-hour job."

Horvath has a different opinion. "The schools are doing us a favor by accepting student teachers," he said.

"Student teachers increase work for the school."

For Neise, though, in a few weeks everything she has learned will be shown in the classroom.

"I am very nervous and excited," she said. "Within two weeks, the class will be mine. I'll have to rely on my own instincts." □

OMICRON DELTA KAPPA

Young leaders target of honor society program

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Leaders in training visited Missouri Southern Saturday, Feb. 19 to learn from some of the College's student and faculty leaders.

Freshmen and sophomore leaders from surrounding high schools met for the afternoon for an Emerging Leaders Program of Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK), Southern's national honor society.

"There are some things you need to know about what kind of leaders you need to be," said Dr. Pat Kluthe, assistant director of the honors program, during her presentation on "Qualities of a Leader."

"There is only one thing that is always true about leaders, and that's to be a leader you have to have followers. What sort of leader do you want? Remember, leaders can be assessed by followers so, everything you want is what you must be."

April Williams, Joplin High School sophomore, attended the program. "I think it was helpful because it gave me a new outlook on being a leader," she said. "Some people think being a leader is easy, but it is really hard. When you see how much goes into it, it's really hard."

Williams said leaders also have difficulties to deal with in school.

"Even though you're a leader, you can get bogged down with peer pressure," she said. "To be a true leader you have to go with what you know is right."

During the program, senior marketing major Matt Olson spoke about leadership in athletics. Dr. Casey Cole, assistant professor of psychology, addressed leadership in college, and head football coach Greg Gregory gave the closing remarks.

"The evaluations the students did were very enthusiastic," said Dr.



Kathryn Koehler (center), junior nursing major, speaks on an OKD panel. Holli Cathy and Jerry Schultz, also on the panel, sit to Koehler's left and right.

Elaine Freeman, director of special programs and ODK sponsor.

Freeman believes the conference is important to the area.

"I think we're meeting a real need to encourage younger leaders at the freshman and sophomore level," she said.

Freeman said the link between ODK and the high school leaders is a natural one.

"I think it's a wonderful link to the ODK idea, which connects leadership, service, and character," she said. "It's a great opportunity for them (the high school students) to see role models and what they will be in a couple of years." □

ISEP

Program allows new experiences

By ANGIE WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Every semester brings in new students, and this semester two students aren't just new to Missouri Southern but also to the United States.

Jung-Eun Huh, a senior anticipating a French major from the Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea, and Ana Falquez, a senior psychology major from the Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla, Colombia, are the two new students brought to Southern by the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP).

ISEP has been active at Southern for three years. In addition to international students coming to the College, Southern students can also apply to go abroad.

"It's growing," said Nadine Schmidt, ISEP coordinator for Southern. "Having students come back and talk about their experience helps to spread the word."

ISEP has been active nationally for 20 years and does more than 1,000 exchanges each year. Schmidt said the ISEP goal is to place everyone who applies as long as the student can be flexible.

In order to apply, one must meet certain requirements.

These requirements include at least a 2.75 grade-point average and completion of at least one year of college before the student begins his or her exchange.

"It helps when students broaden their perception of where they would like to go," Schmidt said.

Falquez and Huh are in agreement on their feelings for Southern.

The strongest emotion is how immense and beautiful the landscape is.

"At first I was shocked," Falquez said. "It's so vast and beautiful."

Falquez feels at home because her university is similar to Southern except Southern is structured more like an actual campus.

"I just wanted the courses, and this college was more like mine," Falquez said.

Huh didn't pick Southern. ISEP arranged her stay here because she wanted to be in the U.S.

"I like this college because it has a lot of space," Huh said.

Her Korean university has more than 30,000 students.

"In my French class we only have four people," Huh said. "In my old university, there would be over 30 to 40."

Some exchange students request an extension so they can stay longer. Schmidt said two ISEP students have asked to stay at Southern.

"I think it speaks well for Southern when an ISEP student wants to stay," she said.

Falquez could be the third ISEP student to stay depending on credits transferring and how many more years it would take for her to graduate.

"I really like it here," Falquez said. "It's a secure and calm atmosphere, and the teachers are more one on one."

Huh said back home in Korea there's 10 million people and a constant rush hour.

"I like it here," she said. "It's quiet and peaceful."

"I hope to see Southern settle into having five to 10 applicants each year, and that the applicants will choose a wide variety of places to go," Schmidt said. □

Southern television focuses on international mission

By CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

In accord with the College's international mission, Missouri Southern Television has developed a program that brings the rest of the world into the homes of MSTV viewers.

This program, "The International Club," is co-produced by Southern students Courtney Hulsey, senior communications major, and Jeff Jamaeldine, junior international business major.

Taffy Coker, student station manager, and Nguvi Kahiha, an interna-

tional business major, also produce episodes of the show.

"The show brings in students, teachers, community members, and people from other countries," Hulsey said. "We do a lot of work to put it together."

The 30-minute show is taped twice a week in the MSTV studios. It airs at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, and at 7:30 p.m. every second and fourth Sunday.

"The International Club" broadcasts on Channel 57, or Channel 7 on cable. The show was introduced last year by Coker.

"I kind of got pulled into it then

and became the producer," Hulsey said. "But I think the show is educational. You may turn it on and see one of your friends and learn something about them that you didn't know."

Jamaeldine also serves as the show's host. "Someone asked me a long time ago to do it, but I really didn't want to," he said. "Then my cousin (Kahiha) and I started hosting the show and we really liked it."

In his second semester as host, Jamaeldine believes the show provides an educational aspect students might not get anywhere else.

"We try to get some international flavor into the four states," he said. "There's so many stereotypes, and I try to let people understand them and realize that those stereotypes aren't always correct."

Along with inviting guests from foreign countries, the show also explores aspects of foreign life. Video footage from other countries, guests who share their traveling experiences, and cooking shows are some of Jamaeldine's favorites.

Because the show is only 30 minutes, he finds he doesn't always get to cover everything he wants to.

"I'll go home at night and find 28 messages on my answering machine from people who want to know, 'Why didn't you ask this question?'" Jamaeldine said. "There's not enough time. Sometimes I think I need to stop giving my phone number out."

Either way, the educational experience Hulsey and Jamaeldine are handing out to students makes the show worth watching.

"I care about the show, and I enjoy doing it," Jamaeldine said. "We want the show to do well. I just want people to know that different isn't always bad." □

SWING LESSONS



Jerry and Lisa Colaugh (foreground) practice their latest learned moves at the Two-In-Step studio in Joplin. NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/THE CHART

Joplin dance studio helps locals swing onto bandwagon

By CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

Don't we step on 5-6? asks the short blonde.

"No, you spin here," says her partner, a middle-aged man who looks like a businessman. "Spin right now."

Across the room, an older man twists in his khakis as his wife does sugars.

"Will you teach us a new step?" asks a girl in her late teens to the instructor.

To any ordinary Joe, this scene may look like something off The Learning Channel. But to the trained eye, it's obvious that swing is the thing.

Swing dancing has made a huge comeback in the U.S. Everywhere you look, from the TV to the nightclubs, folks are shaking their booties and asking each other, "Who's your daddy?"

Not that Joplin is going to fall behind. "Young and old want to do the swing dance," said Dennis Carey, swing-dance

instructor at Two-In-Step, a studio in Joplin. "For some reason, the media are locked in on this thing," he said. "It's everywhere you look."

Even anti-social couch potatoes can't get away from the swing dance craze.

Companies such as Kmart, General Motors, and The Gap are throwing swing dancing out to the television viewers across the nation to help sell products.

Carey, who has been dancing for more than five years, gives lessons to anyone who wants to learn for \$5. His class meets every Tuesday night at 7 and 8:15 p.m. in the Bayberry Square, located across from the Northpark Mall.

"People think I'm a god or something just because I know how to swing dance," he says. "Really, it's very simple. It's just a loose, weight-shifting dance."

Well, maybe to some. Carey walks away for a minute to help a girl who has twisted herself into a pretzel around her partner.

"We're going to do what's called 'A Surprise,'" he says to the girl as he unwraps her.

"OK," she says with a nervous giggle. As he spins her, she laughs even more.

"I'm getting dizzy," she announces to the class.

Everyone smiles as they try the same move with their partner.

Stan Wallace, a senior criminal justice major at Southern, tries the move with his partner, Carissa Campbell, a freshman special education major.

"This is our third time coming here," Campbell said.

"Actually, I drug her in here," Wallace said. "We want to get good enough to go out and show off to people."

Carey said that's the goal of most of the participants.

"People don't want to learn how to dance in a smoke-filled bar, where everyone is drinking and laughing at them," he said. "Here they can learn in an informal

atmosphere. People who want to learn how to swing dance need to come here first, and then go out afterward to show off what they know."

Gary and Dixie Reid, a couple from Joplin, have been dancing together for 10 years, and enjoy going to Carey's class.

"I think all the young kids should do this," said Dixie, 45, an advertising agent. Her husband agrees.

"It's all in the timing," said Gary, 50, who works in real estate. "You just have to get the beat."

They think students should hurry to learn how to do this. After all, swing dancing is a strong presence that won't be ignored.

With the ever-present dwelling of swing music on the top 40 charts, it won't be going away any time soon.

"Ladies love to swing dance," Carey said. "Guys need to remember that. If you come here, I promise you'll want to come back." □

Anticlimactic scenes leave '8mm' bland

By CHRIS ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

Describing the latest performance from Nicholas Cage in his new movie *8mm* is like trying to make Friday night at the needlework convention sound exciting.

In what seems to be yet another boring showing from the Hollywood hero, Cage has his fans wondering if he's fallen from that peak of great performances into that pit where oh so many actors have found themselves.

Perhaps it began with his last showing as an all too emotionless angel in the romantic duo with Meg Ryan in *City of Angels*. True or not, his latest performance is just that one step worse than last time.

In his latest role, Cage finds himself as a private investigator weeding out information for high rolling and fairly important individuals. Though early on the movie does show promise of some of Cage's sarcastic humor and sobering presence from the past, it is soon discovered to be a false hope.

Perhaps the fall into unemotional acting first occurs when Cage's character views the fated 8mm film. Granted, his is disturbed when watching the film, but from there on he seems to have lost what little bit of emotion the 8mm film brought out.

This film is given to him by the wife of a very rich man who has recently passed away. While searching through her husband's vault, she found this film that contains something horrible and repulsive. At least, that is what the audience is led to believe. Unfortunately, all of the hype and hoopla surrounding

the mysterious film turns out to reveal hardly anything shocking at all, which begins the first of many anticlimactic scenes throughout the movie. At any rate, the woman cannot imagine her husband being involved and therefore hires Cage's character to prove the film a phony.

From there Cage follows a string of leads until he finds himself touring underground porn stores with black market trash that is guaranteed to curdle even the strongest stomach. Too bad it doesn't seem to disturb Cage.

Gradually, the plot moves from a "prove it" kind of story to a "whodunit" kind of story. Unfortunately, the movie falls short once again upon discovering who is behind the making of the 8mm film. Perhaps the most anticlimactic of all is in the end when the mysterious masked man is revealed to be none other than a nobody.

However, in the movie's defense, there were some excellent underlying themes, the most important being that of cherishing innocence. Oddly enough, this point hits home by a performance from a baby no older than a year who probably has the one touching moment throughout the entire movie.

The way the innocence of the baby contrasts the ugliness of pornography is excellently done and helps the audience to feel all that much more disturbed. This is brought about even more when it is discovered that the people in charge of this porn ring are really just ordinary people who have gotten "sucked in." Too bad their performances outweigh that of the main character.

This movie had a lot of potential. The idea of another whodunit kind of film with underlying themes that are intended to disturb the audience, much like *Seven* did a couple of years ago, is really something that Hollywood needs more of.

Unfortunately, this story falls short because of its numerous anticlimactic scenes and its unemotional acting from the main character. There aren't even any action scenes to help keep the audience interested. *8mm* really fell short of its mark.

Sorry, Nick, better luck next time. □



Chris Roberts
Staff Writer

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Feast to feed and fill

By VINCE SWEENEY
STAFF WRITER

It is hoped the sixth annual Madrigal Feast at Missouri Southern will have as good a response as it has in years past.

Bud Clark, director of choral activities, is anticipating a successful performance. The Madrigal Feast will take place 7 p.m. March 17-20 on the stage of Taylor Auditorium.

"We do this every year," Clark said. "It takes the audience back into the 16th century. Of course, this was the time of the Renaissance."

Clark said the event includes a night of singing, dancing, and a several-course meal. One of the main things the performers try to do is get the audience involved. One way of taking them back in time is to provide them with no silverware for the meal.

Dirk Myers, senior music education major, is making his second appearance in the Madrigal Feast. He usually plays the part of the guard. Myers also mentions the performers serve the food to the audience and try to keep them happy.

"We try to get them up kicking instead of just sitting there," he said. "Even if you are not in the play, you can still be in it if you are part of the audience because

there is a lot of participation."

Myers notes all he has memorized thus far is the music. For the most part, the performance is made up as they go along. Their job is to show up and do what they think is fun.

"You just entertain your table," Myers said.

Clark said the entertainers are dressed in Renaissance costume. Music from the time period also is played.

Clark said cider and cheese is served between meal courses and the script will be ongoing. The entertainment begins with the main course. A magician also performs during the meal.

"There are a wide variety of things going on," Clark said. "We usually sell out every time. We find people coming back time and time again and bringing other people."

Clark and Myers both believe the response from the people in the past has been good and they hope the tradition remains strong.

"They like it," Myers said. "It is a lot of fun. Come down and see us."

"It is something everyone can thoroughly enjoy," Clark said.

Tickets can still be purchased for \$10 for students and \$18 for non-students at the box office in Taylor Auditorium. Those interested can call 625-9366. □

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March 5, 1999
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Arts Showcases

Arts

Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Eric Gruber at 625-9311.



Pro Musica presents The Moscow Philharmonic, 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 5, in Taylor Auditorium. The show is sold out except for 100 seats open to students at the door with I.D.

Today

5

7:30 p.m.—

Pro Musica presents Moscow Philharmonic Webster Auditorium

Sunday

7

3 p.m.—

Southern Trio: Kexi Liu, Bill Elliott, Gloria Jardon Webster Auditorium

9 p.m.—

Open mic night Crabby's Restaurant

Tuesday

9

7:30 p.m.—

Saxophone Class recital Dr. Charles Thelen Webster Auditorium

Thursday

11

7:30 p.m.—

Faculty Recital: Jones & Smith Webster Auditorium

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

METS awards ambulances to fire departments

METS ambulance service has recently taken delivery of four new ambulances. Each ambulance was manufactured by Wheeled Coach and placed on a Ford E-450 chassis. There are 10 more inches of legroom for the paramedics in the cab.

To provide better patient comfort, the patient compartments in the new ambulances have 163 additional inches of room.

Two of the ambulances are being donated to area fire departments. After viewing the requests from each fire department, METS decided to donate one ambulance to Alba Fire Department and one to Cartersville Fire Department. These ambulances will be used as rescue trucks when the fire department responds with METS.

METS will also be donating a Hurst tool to the Joplin Fire Department. □

St. John's offers CPR program to community

St. John's Regional Medical Center in Joplin is now offering a cardiopulmonary resuscitation training program for inexperienced people. After participating in a CPR course, a person should know what to do for a victim who is unconscious and breathless.

Those who complete the classes will receive a participation card. There are no written exams. All classes are taught according to the American Heart Association (AHA) standards and are sponsored by St. John's Center for Heart Care. St. John's is a satellite training center for AHA.

This class is designed for adult CPR training. A pediatric basic life support class will be held on April 1. For more information, persons may call St. John's educational services at (417) 625-2271. □

KOAM tour presents local weather seminars

The third annual Strong Skies Tour is set to offer a series of free services to the community. KOAM-TV is offering these seminars as a free severe weather preparedness seminar across the four-state area.

The tour will be hosted by KOAM-TV chief meteorologist Dan Bickford and other news and weather personalities.

This one-hour program will feature severe weather video footage and safety tips to help prepare families, businesses, and communities for the upcoming storm weather. Tornadoes, thunderstorms, and flooding will be discussed, with a segment for question and answer sessions and door prizes.

The Strong Skies Tour is free of charge and will begin at 7 p.m. each day.

The following locations are: March 11, Memorial Auditorium, 503 North Pine, Pittsburg, Kan.; March 18, Parsons Municipal Auditorium, 112 S. 17th Street, Parsons, Kan.; March 25, Webster Hall Auditorium, Missouri Southern, Joplin, Mo.; and April 1, Fredonia High School gym, 916 Robinson, Fredonia, Kan.

For more information, persons may call KOAM-TV at (417) 624-0233 or visit its Web site at www.koamtv.com. □

St. Patrick's Day parade slated for Main Street

Main Street Joplin, Inc. is coordinating the Downtown St. Patrick's Day Parade this year at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 17. The procession will line up at 6 p.m. at 15th and Main and move north.

Anyone or any group interested in entering the parade should contact Main Street Joplin at 624-1060 by March 10 to obtain an entry form. □

Joplin businesses plan personnel increase

According to a survey conducted by Manpower Inc., many Joplin businesses are planning to increase their staffs in the next few months. A quarterly poll of local firms showed 50 percent planned to increase their staffs, while 6 percent plan cuts. Another 44 percent of the businesses surveyed plan no change.

In Missouri, Joplin leads other major cities with planned hirings. □

JOPLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Prescription forgeries prompt investigation

By CALE RITTER
STAFF WRITER

When Dr. Edgar Conrad discovered prescription forgeries were being made in his name, he decided to take action.

On Jan. 21, Conrad told the Joplin Police Department that a prescription script pad had been taken from his office. Authorities traced the prescriptions back to Judith A. Gesaman, who was a temporary

nurse-employed at Conrad's office.

According to police reports, several prescriptions were filled from local pharmacies. Karen Hunnicut, one of Conrad's nurses, became aware of the forgery on Jan. 20, when a mail order prescription company faxed the office requesting information for a refill.

Prescriptions were written in Gesaman's handwriting, and stamped with a rubber stamp from Conrad's office for the signature. Both Hunnicut and Conrad stated

he never uses the stamp and always writes the prescriptions by hand.

Due to pending investigation, Conrad's office was not able to respond to questioning when contacted.

According to statements given by Conrad's office in the police report, prescriptions were written for drugs by the following names: Prilosec, Norvasc, Alprazolam, and Halcion.

Conrad was concerned about his

name being on the prescriptions, according to the police report.

Smitty's pharmacy, 2707 E. 32nd St., one of the locations where prescriptions by Gesaman had been taken, refused to answer questions due to the ongoing investigation.

Gesaman told investigator Larry Hopper she had worked for Conrad on a temporary basis. She also said that Conrad had filled prescriptions for her in the past and that it would be OK for her to get prescriptions from him any time

she needed them.

Gesaman claims that she did fill out the prescriptions herself, but that the office manager stamped them.

"As far as we know, it (prescription forgery) has never happened to the hospital," said Lynn Onstot, public relations coordinator at St. John's Regional Medical Center.

Police information was sent to the prosecutor's office for possible charges of obtaining drugs by fraud. □

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK

Fair Acres hosts annual Heartbeat

Physical fitness optional
for participants exercising
in children's fundraiser

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Total body fitness is not a requirement for those participating in Heartbeat '99, the annual Aerob-A-Thon that benefits children's cardiology services through the Children's Miracle Network.

The event will take place from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 13 at the Fair Acres Family YMCA in Carthage. Several area fitness centers, such as Joplin Family Y, Olympic Fitness Center, and It Figures, take turns hosting the event. Different aerobic options will be offered for all different fitness types.

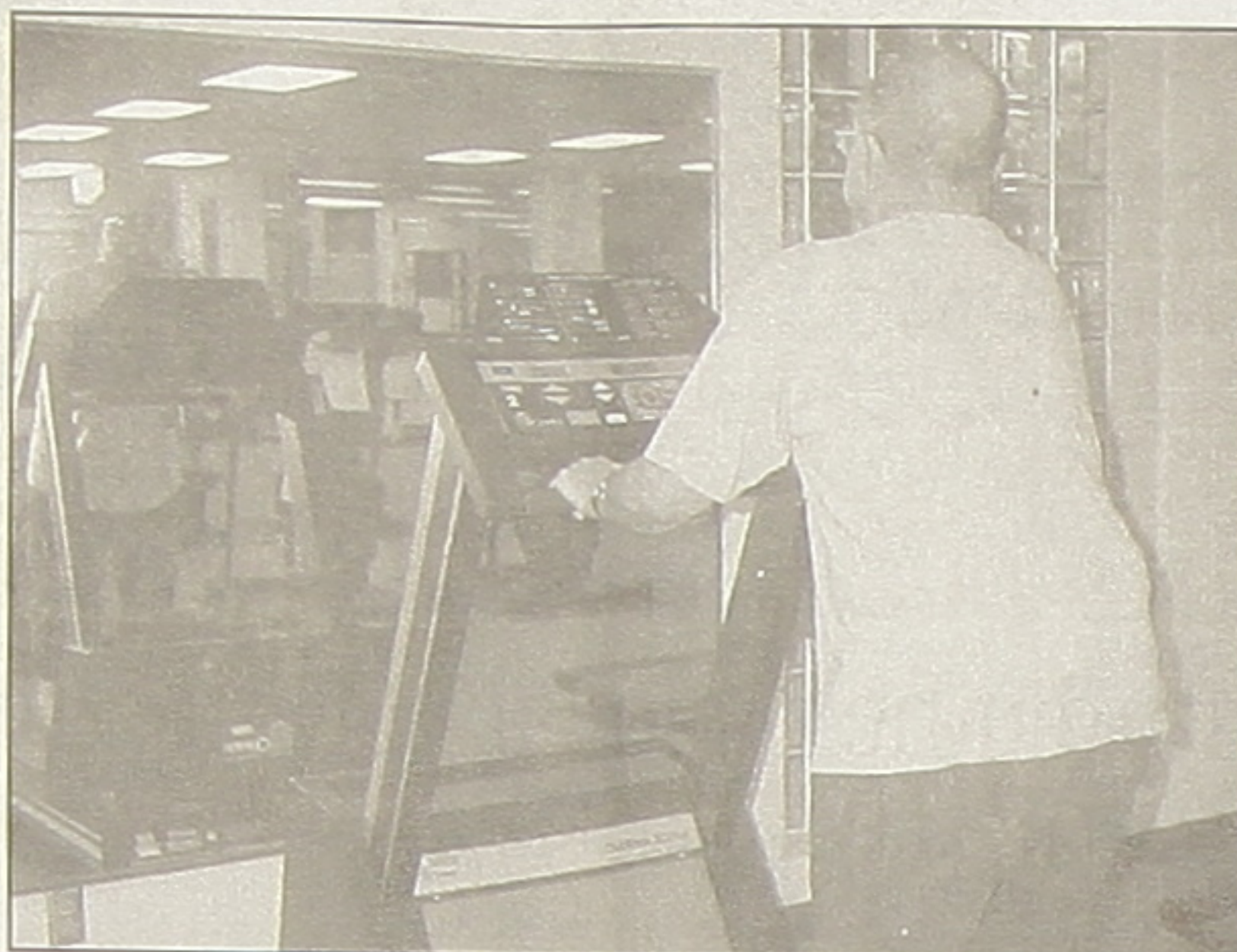
"The aerobics classes will be broken down into different categories," said Jerri Sargent, special projects director of the Children's Miracle Network. "Some of these include high/low step, country line dancing, cardio kick, and Tae Bo, to name a few. There will also be a cooling down period involving some yoga steps."

In correlation with Freeman Hospitals and Health System, the Children's Miracle Network and the previously mentioned fitness centers help children who are not insured. Sargent says the children apply and are accepted on a financial basis. She said in such cases where long trips are needed for hospitalization, funds are given. Medical equipment, such as prosthetics, wheelchairs, and insulin supplies, are also purchased for children.

"Recently, we were able to give a child a prosthetic eye, which is something we had not done before," Sargent said.

The Children's Miracle Network uses pledge packets to go out and get donations, according to Sargent. Donations of \$25 or more will qualify participants to win prizes. Turnout is usually good for the event.

"We usually get around \$3,000, with 50 or



Marvin Smart, a Carthage resident, scoots along the Carthage Fair Acres Y treadmill Tuesday afternoon. The Y will host a Children's Miracle Network fund-raiser March 13.

more participants each year," Sargent said. "It's a great turnout for just a four-hour event. People usually come back to make friends or see old ones from the previous year's events."

Staff at the Joplin Family Y also hope to increase donations this year.

"We are taking four aerobics instructors to Fair Acres and helping get donations from the community," said Shelly Grimes, Joplin Family Y wellness director. "I hope we raise at least \$800."

While the aerobics can be done at any fitness level, according to Jane Frye, program director at Fair Acres Family Y in Carthage, the aerobics will take place in a four-hour block with 50-minute intervals.

"You go at your own pace," she said. "I encourage anyone to come and participate or watch our demonstrations of line dancing and Tae Bo. Everything is free to the public and all donations, no matter how small, are accepted." □

"We usually get around \$3,000, with 50 or more participants each year"

Jerri Sargent
Special projects
director

ROYAL HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY

Readers encourage children

By PHYLLIS DETAR
STAFF WRITER

You are never too old to enjoy reading. That is what millions of people, young and old, were doing Tuesday to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss.

"Read Across America" is a national day of reading sponsored by the National Education Association and many leading literary and youth groups.

"His birthdate was chosen because the majority of people at least know of him," said Terry McDermid, kindergarten teacher at Royal Heights Elementary School in Joplin.

There is so much bad publicity about children not being able to read, the NEA decided to counteract the negative news with positive by sponsoring this event, she said.

"We hold pep rallies to show students that football is important," said Julie Ollenburger, president of the Joplin NEA. "On Dr.

Seuss' birthday, we wanted to send our children a crystal-clear message that reading is important."

Royal Heights Elementary, along with other schools in the area, had a stop, drop, and read session from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Even the cooks and custodians paused to read, McDermid said.

Joplin elementary schools, North Middle School, and the Joplin Family Y were open in the evening for a celebration of reading. Leaders from around the community shared their favorite books with children and their families.

"The intent of the whole program was that on that one night every child was in company of a book and an adult," McDermid said.

"This is the second year for the event, and we hope to make it an annual occasion."

Approximately 10 million children participated around the country last year, Ollenburger said.

The event wasn't limited to schools. Everyone in the community was asked to stop and read from 10 to 10:30 Tuesday to show that reading was important to them. This would have been Dr. Seuss' 95th birthday. He wrote some 40 books with probably the most famous one being *The Cat in the Hat*.

He celebrated his 82nd birthday March 2, 1986, with the publication of *You're Only Old Once*, a book for those in their second childhood.

It is a story that takes place at the "Golden Years Clinic." The hero goes through all the steps along "Stethoscope Row" to finally being "properly pillied" and "billed."

A story honoring teachers was found in his files after his death titled *Hooray for Diffendoofer Day!* It was finished by Jack Prelutsky, illustrated by Lane Smith, and published in 1998.

Theodore Seuss Geisel died in 1991, having been credited the world over with bringing fun into the process of learning to read. □



SPECIAL TO THE CHART
RANDOM HOUSE

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Millennium program highlights safety

Residents make promise to be safe, responsible drivers to cure roadway slaughter

By JO BETH HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

Missouri Southern has joined with the Missouri Division of Highway Safety to make Missouri's roadways safer for the new millennium.

Friday, Feb. 26 was the first day Joplin started the program Missouri Millennium Promise.

Joplin residents will be able to join with their fellow Missourians to make a promise to be safe and responsible drivers.

The concept of this program is to make Missouri drivers aware of the need to be responsible drivers to save lives and reduce injuries on the state's roadways.

Dr. Jack Spurlin, dean of technology and vice president for lifelong learning, participated in the program.

"Here at the law enforcement academy, we train officers to be reactive to traffic crashes," Spurlin said.

"But we also strive to instill the need to be proactive when it comes to saving lives and reducing injuries."

The Missouri Millennium Promise is a proactive way to focus on the value of responsible driving. It is an outstanding

concept that can save lives and benefit us all."

The challenge of this program is to convince Missouri drivers of three elements: first, that traffic crashes are a health concern for everyone; second, that driving is a privilege, not a right, and therefore everyone has a responsibility to drive safely; and third, that deaths and injuries are not an "acceptable" part of traveling on Missouri's highways.

The MDHS wishes to communicate these to the public to raise awareness and to have Missouri residents sign a pledge card saying they will drive carefully starting now and continuing in the future. The goal is to have 2 million signatures by the year 2000.

People of all ages can sign this pledge, even children. The habits they start now will make a difference in what they do in the future.

Another goal of the program is to educate the public of the seriousness of this issue.

According to the Highway Safety Report, crashes are the state's No. 1 killer of people in the 5 to 34 age group and the No. 4 killer for those aged 35 to 54. In 1997, 1,192 people died and 81,515 people were injured in Missouri traffic accidents.

The MDHS wants people to realize accidents are preventable, not inevitable.

"It's such a simple concept," Spurlin said. "This (traffic accidents) is the leading cause of death in certain age groups in Missouri. If people just stop and think about it, they can stop it. We can do something about this."

It's not like cancer, which is another leading killer in America. We don't have a cure for cancer. We do have a cure for traffic accidents."

J.J. Spurlin, instructor of criminal justice, was the coordinator in Southern's role in the Millennium partnership. His job will now be to act as a liaison between the MDHS and Joplin.

"I'm going to try to keep everything updated and posted so people will know what's going on," he said. "I'll also try to keep it going by word of mouth, and hit people up myself to sign the promise. I want to do my part in getting the 2 million signatures."

After people sign the promise card, they are encouraged to keep the card in their car within their normal range of view. That way, if they are tempted to speed or drive irresponsibly, they can look at the card and be reminded of the promise they made to keep Missouri's roads safe. □

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Legislation may curb negligence by motorists

Uninsured target of proposed bill

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY—Woes suffered at the hands of uninsured motorists may be curbed if House Bill 840 is passed this session.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Bill Gratz (D-Jefferson City), would address what Gratz says is a major problem across the state.

"One of the biggest complaints I've had since I've been in the General Assembly is people involved in accidents with uninsured motorists," he said.

Gratz says the Motorist Insurance Identification Database Program (as it is referred to in the bill) is modeled after one currently used in Colorado and requires the Missouri Department of Revenue to oversee a database system.

"Colorado contracts with a third party vendor who runs the computer company," he said. "On a monthly basis Revenue sends a copy of all the licenses on vehicles to the database."

Gratz says insurance companies also send the vendor copies of all policy holders on vehicles with changes, which includes cancellations for the database. The database, on a monthly basis, compares the lists and finds those without coverage.

"If these vehicles are not in our system for two months, the vehicle will not show up in the database," he said. "If it does not show up, we know that means it's an uninsured motorist."

According to Gratz, motorists would receive a letter after being absent from the database for 60 days, informing them of the need to acquire vehicle insurance in 30 to 45 days, or be listed as an uninsured motorist in the database which would be accessible to the Missouri Highway Patrol.

"Also, the Highway Patrol, when they stop a vehicle with no extra effort, will have it in their computer, which will be tied into the database computer," he said.

Rep. Chuck Surface (R-Joplin), the ranking member of the House Insurance committee, says he thinks the bill could have positive effects, but is concerned with increasing costs to policy holders.

Insurance committee members will meet Monday with Gratz and others who both oppose and support the legislation to discuss financial and other issues associated with the legislation.

While the bill calls for a \$1 fee at the time of licensing to run the program, Gratz says the measure should have a positive effect on policy holders through insurance providers in the long run.

"The cost to the insurance companies will be offset in two ways," he said.

"One, if we have more people on the road with insurance, then they'll (insurance companies) be paying less in losses for uninsured motorists."

"Two, if we have more people buying insurance who did not have insurance, then we'll have a gain in increased premiums."

"If anything, after a few years it should help rates go down," Gratz said. □

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

"I think it shows them how to be involved in the political process and how they can make an impact on issues..."



Rep. Chuck Surface (R-Joplin) meets with student nurses from Missouri Southern in the Capitol Tuesday afternoon. The students visited Jefferson City in order to attend a state-wide student nursing conference.

Nurses lobby at capitol

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY—Students from the nursing program at Missouri Southern were a presence in Jefferson City earlier this week.

The students visited the State Capitol as part of the Missouri Student Nurses' Association, in conjunction with the Missouri Nurses' Association.

"I think it shows them how to get involved in the political process and how they can make an impact on issues that affect their patients and their practice," said Evalina Shippee, associate professor of nursing.

Shippee was the only faculty member who traveled with the group of 42 students, the largest representation of any college or university statewide.

"I think it helped them to see there is participation from across the state," she said.

"Since this is the largest group, I hope that means we're becoming more astute."

Students were able to meet with their representatives and senator from the Joplin area.

"You really realize how much they affect your practice," said Kathryn Koehler, junior nursing major. "Because a lot of the laws they pass dictate how we function as nurses, and even some of the rules will govern how students learn in the job place."

During some of the presentations, students heard from members of the American Nurses' Association on several national legislative issues, including multi-state licensing.

"That certainly will affect these young nurses," Shippee said. "It is a big issue they will need to keep up with for their practice."

Another topic addressed was new issues in job safety.

"We heard about issues from needle sticks as they relate to HIV and Hepatitis B, to latex allergies," Shippee said.

"It was a really interesting afternoon, I thought."

This was the second visit for Maranatha Covert, senior nursing major, who said she felt a strong message from the legislators the students met.

"Over and over, all of the speakers, our instructors, and the legislators kept saying how important our vote was and how important our political action is," she said. "I think the point is to get us involved in the political process."

"I think as a student, you tend to get wrapped up in the world of school, and this offers more of a world view," Koehler said.

Shippee says participation in organized functions, within one's chosen field, can be important for the future.

"I hope they will get the necessity of being a member of their professional organization after graduation," she said.

Continuing the lobbying visits is definitely on the agenda for future years, Shippee says.

"I foresee that this will continue to be a big trip for them every year." □

HIGHER EDUCATION: NEWS BRIEFS

F.W. de Klerk visiting SMSU, Hammons Hall

F.W. de Klerk, former president of South Africa and Nobel Peace Prize winner, will speak Tuesday at the Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts at Southwest Missouri State University.

The lecture, which will begin at 7 p.m., is titled "The Challenge of Change." Although there is no charge for the address, a ticket will be required for admission. Tickets may be picked up at the Hall box office from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and Tuesday.

In 1989, de Klerk was elected president of South Africa. He fundamentally changed the structure of his country and accelerated the elimination of apartheid by announcing that Nelson Mandela would be released from prison. □

Northwest class sponsors kissing bridge as gift

The Class of 1999 at Northwest Missouri State University has announced the sponsorship of the kissing bridge development as its senior class gift.

"Survey results indicated the Class of 1999 wanted to make its mark on the university through such a sponsorship," said Kristin Farley, gift chairperson.

The estimated cost of the project is \$5,000, with roughly half of that coming from graduation fees.

"So we're halfway there, but we still need to raise an estimated \$2,500," Farley said. □

Missouri-Rolla offering new master's degree

The University of Missouri-Rolla will offer a master's degree in engineering management throughout the state beginning next fall through a cooperative agreement with five other universities.

The program also will be offered to communities served through the University of Missouri System's eight Telecommunication Community Resource Centers (TCRCs) in Camdenton, Kirksville, Mexico, Nevada, Park Hill, Poplar Bluff, Portageville, and Reeds Spring.

"The degree program is designed for working engineers who want to further their education, so flexibility is an important component of this program," says UMR Chancellor John T. Park.

"We'll use all the available technology at our disposal to meet the needs of individuals in businesses and industries all across Missouri." □

Rockhurst students offer break time in service

Twenty-eight Rockhurst College students will put service before pleasure when they go on spring break Saturday through March 13.

Twenty students plan to visit Guatemala to work in a health clinic, paint a school, and teach English. Eight students will travel to Mexico to serve as volunteers where needed.

The group going to Guatemala is sponsored by the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, which invited the students to help at a mission the organization sponsors in a suburb of Guatemala City.

"More than 50 students applied for 20 spots on the Guatemala trip," said Donette Alonzo, Rockhurst director of multicultural affairs. "Not only are they required to pay half of their expenses, they are taking their own painting supplies and gifts for the children."

The students will stay with Guatemalan families and participate in cultural exchanges, discussing life in the United States and learning more about the recent civil war in Guatemala.

For the second year in a row, Glenn Kerfoot, S.J., assistant director of campus ministry, will accompany a group of students to Anapra, Mexico, to perform volunteer work through a mission sponsored by St. Mark's Catholic Church in Independence. □

HANDY HELPER



Wanda Munsun, working with the Key Company, helps prepare lunch at the Capitol in association with Missouri Chiropractic Association Legislative Day last week.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Show-Me Scholarship to aid Missouri students

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY—High school seniors and college freshmen across the state may have the opportunity to cash in on a proposed scholarship that benefits Missouri residents attending Missouri schools.

House Bill 545 would establish the Show-Me Scholarships, to be awarded to any eligible student who has graduated from high school after 1999, and would be administered by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE).

"We've seen the rising cost of a college education and the strain it puts on both the student and the family," Rep. Jim Froelker (R-Gerald), sponsor of the bill, said.

Scholarships would not exceed \$3,000 for tuition, and there would be up to \$200 allowed for books. Students would have to maintain a 3.0 grade-point average and attend an approved private or public institution to receive the scholarship.

Froelker said the cost of higher education across the state and the burden this places on everyone involved is at the core of the bill.

He said state appropriations for higher education have increased 150 percent over the past 10 years, while the

cost of college has gone up 200 percent.

"The family or the student himself has had to pick up that cost," he said.

Froelker said the idea was patterned after Georgia's Hope Scholarship program, which he says, "has been very successful down there."

This is Froelker's second session to introduce this legislation, and he says he continues to believe there is a need for more students to earn college degrees.

"As you look at the job market, more and more jobs are requiring an education past high school," he said. "I could see the trend of the cost of college getting higher and just decided to help head that off."

Paul Waggoner, legislative liaison for the CBHE, says new programs, such as this one, are good for students and important to the Board.

"It's certainly a priority of the Coordinating Board to provide financial access to students," Waggoner said.

"Students are always going to have financial need, and we want to make sure that either through state, federal, or institutional support that that need is met."

"We would like for everyone who has the ability and desire to go to college to have that ability." □

Sports Scope

1990-1999: The decade of Pat Lipira

In the last nine seasons of her 17-year coaching career, Pat Lipira and her softball troops have left their dent in the NCAA Division II record books.

The last nine years, which can be referred to nothing less than a big deal, have brought Lipira a national championship (1992), regional titles, conference titles—the whole nine yards.



Andre L. Smith
Sports/Design Editor

She was inducted into the Southern Athletics Hall of Fame in 1998 and named MIAA coach of the year in 1990, 1992, 1993, and

1998.

The 90s have been nothing but golden for Lipira and her teams. In fact, they have won almost 350 contests in nine seasons. (Let's see, nine goes into 34 three times, da, da, da—that's a little under 39 wins a year.)

Losses are not a common occurrence for Lipira's teams either. They are one loss away from reaching the century mark, an average of only 11 a season.

By winning percentage, the Lady Lions are eighth in the nation this decade and ninth by victories.

None of their MIAA opposition ranks better. The closest by winning percentage is Central Missouri State, 26th. Nebraska-Kearney, who eliminated Southern in last year's regional tournament, is 12th in win percentage and tied for 14th for most victories with Portland State.

Their winning ways are expected to continue this season. They are ranked 16th in the Division II preseason polls, and Lipira said they hope to be better at the end of the season.

"Usually those rankings are based on last year's team," she said. "We hope to move up the rankings, not down. We have set lots of goals for our team this year."

Another honor that Lipira said she had no idea about until seeing on paper was the national attendance record. Southern was No. 1 in the nation for attendance at home games.

"I want to really thank the community and our fans for that," she said. "We want to be a team that is fun to watch. That's another one of our serious goals."

Yea! We have a team that is breaking national attendance records. We have a team whose name is all over the NATIONAL record books. We have a nationally ranked team who will probably remain in the polls.

The Lady Lions proved themselves against the Arkansas Lady Razorbacks with a 2-1 win in their season opener.

Britany Hargis threw a three-hitter and Southern's defense played sensationally according to Lipira.

What else do they need?

A few big bats would help hold off those offensively powered teams. The Lady Lions have little problem getting on base but it's always good to have someone hit a three-run homer every now and then.

Bottom line, Lipira doesn't need anyone to toot her team's horn. The talent on the team speaks for itself. The dedication that Lipira shows to running a successful program speaks for itself. And a national attendance record speaks for itself.

I just thought everyone should know it, though. Toot, toot! □

BASEBALL



Freshman Joey Ballard shows his speed as he sprints to advance bases in a preseason practice at Joe Becker Stadium.

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Turner optimistic after 1-6 start

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

If (417)RUB-WOOD wasn't the phone number for Woody's Woodfire Pizza, Lion's head coach Warren Turner might want the digits for his office.

Brandishing wooden bats, Missouri Southern (1-6) picked up their first win of the season defeating Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville 4-2 in a nine-inning contest Saturday.

Junior Justin Dudinsky (1-1) picked up the win, junior Nathan Robertson kept the save.

Turner said the Mid-Lakes Conference, of which Edwardsville is a member, has abandoned aluminum bats in an effort to reduce the dominance of the offensive side of the game.

The Lions dropped both ends of a twin-bill Sunday 2-6 and 0-9.

Six losses in seven games, and the year has just begun for Southern baseball.

Turner continued his February tradition of scheduling NCAA Division I schools to test his team. In March, Turner's formula continues with the Lions hosting tournaments at Joe Becker Stadium and the beginning of MIAA play.

Southern's first home game will take place at 1 p.m. Wednesday against the University of Missouri-St. Louis to start the Mutt Miller Classic.

Dudinsky, who had been sidelined for two years, hopes to spend more time pitching this season.

"I hope to start a lot on the mound this year," Dudinsky said. "My goals are for the team to do well and have a healthy season so I can throw."

Dudinsky said fear of injuries would not hold him back.

"This year I am going all out," he said. "I am just going to play, that is all there is to it. I have been hurt the last two years, so it doesn't matter what happens—I am playing."

Dudinsky's return coincides with the absence of Kevin Escala (4-3 in 1998), who is out for the season because of shoulder surgery. Also returning is junior Jeremy Fowler (0-2).

Dudinsky is also active offensively. When not pitching he is the designated hitter. In 20 at-bats, he has accumulated six hits, two doubles, a home run, three RBIs, and four walks.

Turner is happy with his other offensive weapons, new and old.

"We are real pleased with [freshman] Joey Ballard, a football player, coming out lead off," Turner said. "We are real excited about him."

Ballard, in 25 at-bats, has six hits, three doubles, five RBIs, and four walks.

"After football, I came out to try to help the team," Ballard said.

Turner said his team has offensive depth.

"We have [junior] Cory Wright, our shortstop," he said. "I think he is going to hit, plus [senior] Flave Darnell, who has been with us four years. Justin Dudinsky is hitting, and then we have some other guys who are working."

Darnell has 23 at-bats, six hits, two doubles, and three walks.

"Our main goal is to win, especially winning our conference would be nice and go on to regionals, but our goal is to win," Darnell said.

"I don't think we will score a lot of runs, but we are going to put the ball in play and let things happen," Turner said.

Question marks remain at third base and in the outfield.

Despite Southern's 1-6 record, Turner remains optimistic.

"I think a lot of that was just nervousness and anticipation of playing those types of [Division I] teams," he said.

Early season stats show a porous defense. The Lions have 17 errors to their opponents, 10. Turner said his team has adequate speed, and its defense will improve.

"We are adequate there," he said.

"We have a good center fielder who can run. Short and second, we are strong up the middle. Our catchers will do fine. First and third are normally guys who don't run well. If they will just field and make a routine play, well that's the main thing," he said. "We're adequate for Division II." □

SOFTBALL

Hargis' three-hitter sparks Lady Lions to victory in opener

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

Sophomore Britany Hargis pitched a three-hitter against the Arkansas Lady Razorbacks en route to a 2-1 victory in game one of a doubleheader at LadyBack Yard in Fayetteville Wednesday night.

The Lady Razorbacks (12-7), who received votes in the NCAA Division I top 25 poll, had 17 games under their belt coming into Wednesday's contest. It was the season opener for Southern, ranked 16th in NCAA Division II.

Hargis struck out five in the contest, and Southern's defense played almost flawlessly according to head coach Pat Lipira.

"It's exciting to see Britany pitch such a great game," she said. "Our defense was great. Stacy Guptill played outfield in the first game and made a tremendous catch in the outfield."

Arkansas scored a run in the bottom of the fourth inning. The Lady Lions remained scoreless through five innings, but the defense held Arkansas scoreless in the fifth as well.

Three hits and an error by the Lady Razorbacks in the top of the sixth inning scored two runs for the Lady Lions and were enough to seal the win.

"We just couldn't get our bats going in the first game," said Lady Razorback head coach Carrie Dever-Boaz.

"We also had some costly errors at inadvertent times."

Redshirt freshman Marin Whorton went two for three and had an RBI.

Lady Razorbacks pitcher Rachel Talley (6-1) picked up her first loss of the year.

In the second game, junior pitcher Tammy Kincaid pitched a four-hitter and shut out Southern 6-0.

Guptill retired six batters on the night and gave up no earned runs in the loss. She

gave up seven hits, but four errors cost the Lady Lions.

"The wheels kind of fell off in the second game," Lipira said. "Stacy Guptill threw a good game, but we gave them too many opportunities to hit. We had some errors that really hurt us."

Amber Shoemaker, Stephanie Bunker, and Guptill went one for two from the plate.

Cara Lemon also had a hit for the Lady Lions.

Lipira said she was pleased with the play of her younger players.

Brandi Kessler, a second baseman from Blue Springs, has the duty of filling the void left by All-American Jennifer Jimerson. Lipira said those who come out to watch Southern this season can expect to see new faces.

"There will be times that seven of the nine players on the field will be newcomers," she said. "Jimerson's shoes are hard shoes to fill, but Brandi Kessler is going to be a

great second baseman for us.

"And who knows what she'll do, because they're both from Blue Springs," Lipira added with a smile.

This weekend the Lady Lions travel to Pittsburg State to participate in an invitational tournament.

Several conference foes will compete in the tournament as well, which means Lipira can get a look at what lies ahead.

"We will see good competition this weekend, including people we will play later on in the season," Lipira said.

The Lady Lions play today at 1:30 p.m. against Columbia College and the University of Missouri-Rolla at 3 p.m. Lipira said Wednesday's victory was a great momentum builder for her team.

"It's encouraging going into this weekend knowing that you beat a good Division I team," she said.

"We know how we need to play this weekend—like we did in the first game." □

TENNIS

Tennis team to play strengthened schedule in '99 season

By RUSSELL DAKE
STAFF WRITER

With a new coach at the helm and a strengthened schedule, the Missouri Southern Lady Lions tennis team looks to improve on last year's fifth-place finish in the MIAA.

Southern returns five members from last year's squad, including its No. 1 and 2 singles players, senior Heather Andrews and sophomore Julie Posch. Andrews and Posch also pair up to form the Lady Lions' No. 1 doubles team.

"We strengthened the schedule this year,"

said first-year coach Linda Gebauer. "Compared to the competition, we weren't playing the same number of matches. We scheduled 18 matches this spring. I think that will help us with being a little more competitive."

"It's a very tough conference for tennis," Gebauer added. "I knew I was going to be taking over the program this year, so I was able to watch a lot of teams last spring. I think there is a very high quality of tennis in this conference."

Julie Posch, from Parsons, Kan., comes into the spring as the Lady Lions' No. 1 singles

player. Posch will be looking to improve upon last year's fourth-place finish in the conference tournament.

"I think that Coach has done an excellent job this season," Posch said. "There's been a definite change in the way practices have been conducted from in the past. I feel like, overall, our team is going to be more consistent and better this year."

"The girls have been working real hard," Gebauer said. "I'm proud of their work ethic and attitude. I've been working them pretty hard and they have responded to the challenge."

Southern will open the 1999 schedule at 3 p.m. Tuesday in Tulsa against John Brown University.

The spring schedule is highlighted by a spring break tournament in Hilton Head, S.C. The first home match of the season is March 31 against Southwest Baptist University.

"Last fall we set several goals," Gebauer said. "Some of the goals were to improve on our doubles, improve on our footwork, and to improve on our conditioning."

"We are continuing those throughout the spring, and I think you'll see some results on the court." □

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD



Erin Odell (right) works with Tina Keller on passing the baton at practice earlier this season. Keller was the MIAA champion in the 55-meter hurdles this season and will compete at the national meet in Indianapolis.

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Three prepare for nationals

Dotson to defend number one ranking

By ROBBY BALL
STAFF WRITER

Three Missouri Southern track and field athletes have made the trip to Indianapolis this weekend for the NCAA Division II national indoor track and field championships.

Senior hurdler Tina Keller, senior mile runner Amanda Harrison, and junior high jumper Kevin Dotson traveled eight hours to the RCA Dome to compete against the best in the nation.

Dotson, a transfer from the University of Arkansas, was the only Lion to make it after a national qualifying jump of 7-3 1/4. Dotson is still ranked No. 1 in Division II and in the top 15 in all divisions in the nation.

"Kevin has really stayed up with the competition," Rutledge said. "It will really come down to who has the best day."

"If Kevin does, he'll be the national champion."

Dotson is not scheduled to jump until Saturday afternoon, but Rutledge had to register him Thursday morning.

"We should know if Kevin is the national champion by 2 p.m. Saturday."

Keller and Harrison will also take on the best in the nation in Indiana this weekend.

"I think they both have a pretty good chance to win it," said Patty

Vavra, head women's track and field coach. "The thing about nationals is it's pretty even ground because everybody's good."

Keller, who was crowned MIAA champion in the 55-meter hurdles, and Harrison, who ran a school record in the mile, will run their respective preliminaries today and then the finals on Saturday.

"In the hurdles, they take the top six finishers in the prelims," Vavra said. "And in the mile, they will probably take the top eight since they have eight lanes."

For Keller, this is her second national meet. It is Harrison's first time to the national competition.

"I'm looking forward to it," Vavra said. "Mainly because you are there, but you also get to watch the Division I people perform."

"It's a great atmosphere."

Seniors Stephanie Wainwright and Heather Hoyle were on the bubble with their provisional marks. They missed out on the indoor nationals, but still have the outdoor season to look forward to.

"The last week hurt Stephanie mainly because some other schools held their conference championships," Vavra said. "Two people moved ahead of her because of that and just barely bumped her out."

For Harrison and Keller to become All-Americans, they will have to finish in the top six in the finals.

"The top six are named All-Americans," Vavra said. "It's not the easiest thing to do, but Tina and Amanda are very capable of accomplishing it." □

Academics earn top priority

COMPILED FROM STAFF REPORTS

In a day when many are bemoaning the efforts of student-athletes in the classroom, Missouri Southern's student-athletes are getting the job done.

When grade reports were compiled recently for all of Missouri Southern's 276 Lions and Lady Lions, the results were outstanding: a cumulative grade point average of 2.858 on a 4.00 scale, the equivalent of a B minus average.

"We are very proud of the efforts of our student-athletes," men's athletics director Jim Frazier says.

Women's athletics director Sallie Beard adds that the high cumulative grade point average was achieved as a combination of student-athlete effort and the academic assistance of coaches.

"Our coaches work extremely hard to make sure our student-athletes receive any additional assistance they are going to need," she says.

Of the 276 student-athletes on Missouri Southern rosters, 115 received at least a 3.00 GPA. As a team, the Lady Lions tennis team had the top cumulative grade point average with a 3.332, followed by the women's track and cross country team with a 3.247, the softball team with a 3.041, the Lions' basketball team with a 2.954, and the men's track and cross country team with a 2.918. □

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TEST

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All out-of-state students who plan to graduate in May, 1999; July, 1999 or December, 1999 who have not taken U.S. Gov't or State and Local Gov't in a Missouri college should see Pat Martin, H318 on or before April 15 to sign up to take the test.

Please note: Students taking this test must pay a \$5.00 fee to the Business Office, H210, prior to taking the test; and present your receipt to the instructor when you go to the test room.

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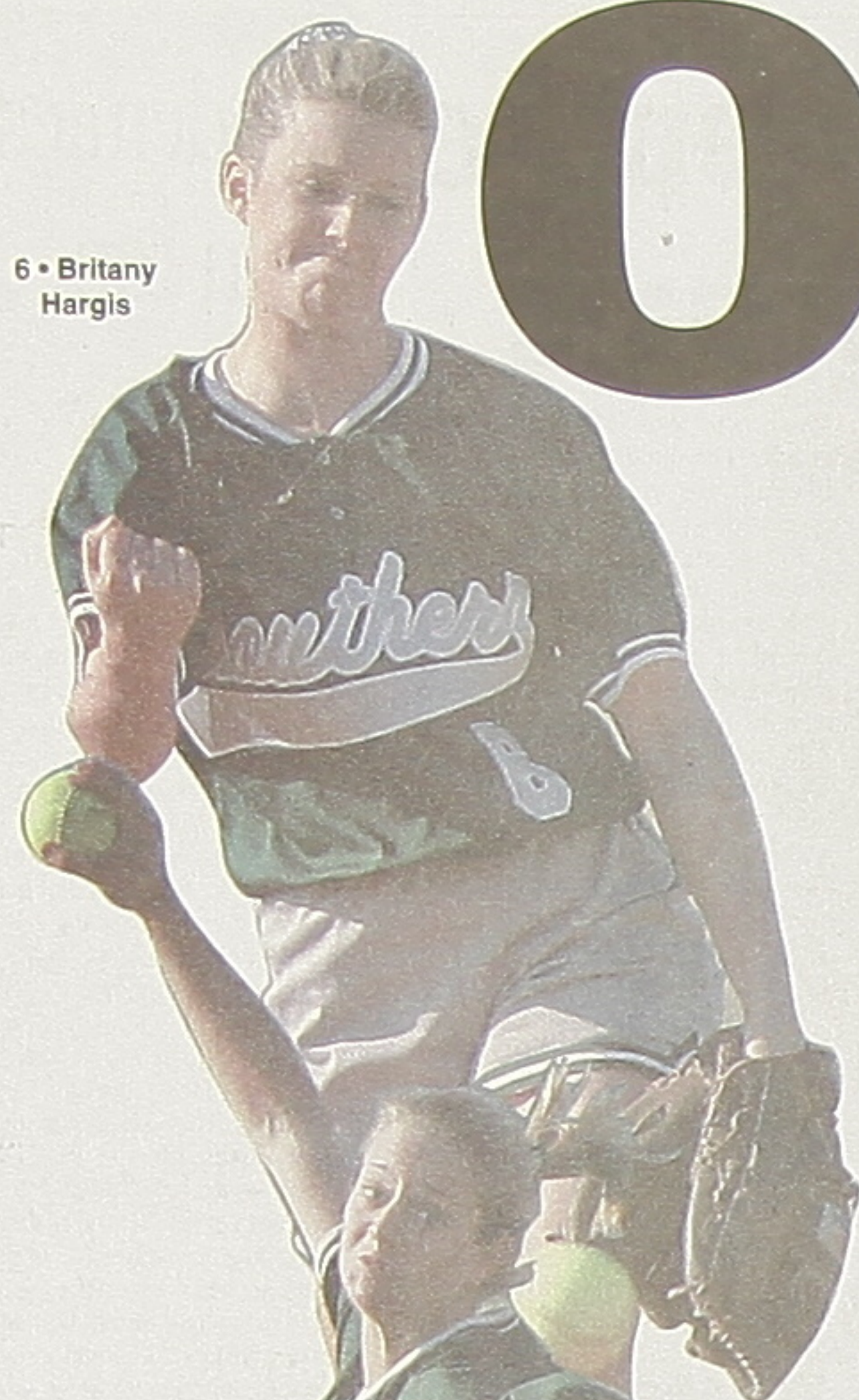
SPECIAL THANKS

Lady Lions head coach Pat Lipira would like to thank those who came out and supported Missouri Southern softball last year.

The Lady Lions had more fan attendance at home games than any other team in the nation. Please continue to support Southern softball!

ON THE MOUND

6 • Brittany Hargis



Young pitchers hold key to Lady Lions' success

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTSIDESIGN EDITOR

She could not have asked for a better performance from two freshmen pitchers last year, and now Missouri Southern head softball coach Pat Lipira will look to two more.

Lipira acquired Tulsa Player of the Year Stacy Guptill and Webb City native Hailey Stanley to go along with sophomores Brittany Hargis and Elisha Bonnot.

A year ago, Hargis and Bonnot turned in superb numbers and earned all-conference honors. Lipira said this year's pitching staff is one of the best she has ever coached.

"We've had great pitchers, we've had good pitchers," she said. "I think we have four pitchers right now that anyone in the conference would love to have. It makes decisions for me a little tougher, but that's a good problem to have."

Lipira said her pitchers must understand that the time may come when they will have to sit and cheer on their teammates.

"The pitchers are a team within a team," she said. "There are times when someone is not going to be having a good day and someone else will go in. We're going to do a lot of tag teaming out there."

In addition to being named first-team all-conference and MIAA Freshman of the Year, Hargis earned all-region accolades as well. Her conference-leading earned run average of 1.18 and strikeout average of 5.41 per seven innings was not good enough for her, however.

Her personal goal is to improve on those marks.

"I want to get my ERA under 1.00," Hargis said. "There's a lot of pressure to improve because I'm a sophomore. I'm just going to go out and do my best."

Lipira said when Hargis is at her best, the team is in its best situation.

"I have high expectations for Brittany and she has high expectations for herself," Lipira said. "You can always anticipate that she's going to go out and give her best. She's a quality pitcher. She proved that last year. When she gets on the mound, you know you have a chance to get some

"I think we have four pitchers right now that anyone in the conference would love to have. It makes decisions for me a little tougher..."

Pat Lipira
Head softball coach

strikeouts, and that's the big part of the game."

Bonnot, who turned in an 11-2 record last year, has the potential to post big numbers as well.

The left-handed pitcher from Fatima High School in Loose Creek, Mo., ranked second in the conference in strikeouts per seven innings with 4.70 and was third in ERA with a 1.95.

"Bonnot finished with one of the best records in the conference and was honored for it," Lipira said. "She was one of Brittany's biggest backers when she was having success during the conference tournament, and I admired her for that. We're shooting for Elisha to get her ERA down, and she'll do some great things for us."

The talent does not stop with Southern's veterans.

Guptill and Stanley were successful high school pitchers and will do nothing but strengthen the rotation.

"Hailey can come through and be very effective with her drop ball," Lipira said. "Stacy was a great player out of Tulsa, and we were very fortunate to get her. She is going to be a strikeout pitcher."

Both were all-state selections and versatile players as well.

Guptill was not only a great pitcher in high school but also an all-state outfielder. She carries a 4.0 grade-point average, in which Lipira delights.

"You want a team full of Stacy Guptills," Lipira said. "She is a good hitter and will be in the outfield if she's not pitching."

"Hailey is another player who you don't have to worry about," Lipira said. "She is a good hitter and good base runner. She will make people swing at her pitches and she has a great change-up."

Guptill said it is a challenge to play at the next level, but it's a challenge she is up for.

"The level of competition is much higher, but I'm excited about this season," she said. "The veterans are supportive of the newcomers, and I'm surprised at how comfortable they've made us in such a short period of time." □

11 • Stacy Guptill



25 • Elisha Bonnot

3 • Hailey Stanley



P • BRITANY HARGIS

1998 Record: 20-9
ERA: 1.18
Strikeouts: 147
Shutouts: 12

As a freshman, Hargis set a school record for strikeouts per seven innings (5.41) and led the MIAA in wins with 20. She was named to the All-Region and All-Regional Tournament team. Hargis was voted MIAA Freshman of the Year and was named a first-team All-MIAA pitcher. Hargis' ERA of 1.18 was among the top 30 in the nation in 1998.



P • ELISHA BONNOT

1998 Record: 11-2
ERA: 1.95
Strikeouts: 58
Shutouts: 1

In her second year on the mound for the Lady Lions, Bonnot looks to improve on a stellar 11-2 mark. She ranked second in the conference last year in strikeouts per seven innings with 4.7. She was third in the MIAA with a 1.95 ERA and eighth in wins. Her performance earned her honorable mention All-MIAA recognition.



P • STACEY GUPTILL

East Central HS
Tulsa, Okla.
High School ERA: 1.25

As a freshman, Guptill will see action on the mound as well as in the outfield. She was a four-time all-conference pick, conference Hitter of the Year, and all-state outfielder as a senior.

She recorded a 1.25 ERA as a senior. Guptill also competed on the Tulsa Blazer's summer team. She batted .345 with a 0.56 ERA in leading the team to an 84-8 record and seventh place finish at nationals.



P • HAILEY STANLEY

Webb City High School
Webb City, Mo.
High School ERA: 0.58
HS Record: 17-3

Hailey Stanley was a three-time all-state pick and four-time all-conference pick at Webb City. She also collected all-district accolades all four years. She had an ERA of 0.58 and a record of 17-3 as a senior. She had 136 strikeouts in 108 innings and helped the Cardinals to a 75-13 record in four seasons. Stanley will see action on the mound for Southern this year.